

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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1947

File No. 48

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FO 371/61827

61827



324

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E 8512

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

Last Paper.

References.

(Print.)

61827

(How disposed of.)

Sgt. R.R. Stokes

M.P.

from Mr. Beith.

Sept. 16.

Sgt. R.R. Stokes M.P.

Sept 29

(Action  
completed.)

(Ind.)

Next Paper.

8515.

Hungarian Children in 'President Warfield'

Give detailed account of how children  
were taken from their families in Hungary  
by youth movement named 'Plasom  
' and put aboard 'President  
Warfield' for Palestine.

(Minutes.)

Further letters from and to  
Mr Stokes

In P.P. R.R. Stokes to Mr Beith 2/10.

News Dept.  
Infr. Police Dept.

I think there has been  
quite a lot of publicity for  
this?

J.S. Beith

Oct 6  
Very full accounts based on the same  
material as that sent to Mr. Stokes appeared  
in the evening papers of 5th September,  
and the morning papers of 6th September, 1947,  
particularly the Evening Standard of the  
5th and the Manchester Guardian of the  
6th. We have lately been  
referring.

Wt 24772/717 17855 10/38 F.O.P.

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referring supervisor as to the subsequent  
 fate of these children to Norfolk House,  
 but I do not think very much has  
 appeared since the original publication  
 of the story.

Storace 9/10  
 (Storace)  
 11/10

Might it not be profitable to mention to  
 Mr Stokes the discovery of the non-Jewish  
 Hungarian girl and the beating-up of the  
 interpreter which followed her removal  
 from the camp?

W. Rennie 11/10  
 RENNIE

I feel myself that this story is  
 now dead and that it is not worth  
 re-opening unless Mr. Stokes returns to the  
 charge.

J. E. Cable 14/10  
 (J. E. CABLE)

I agree  
 J. B. A. 15/10

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FO 371/61827

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

433 3148 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

Registry  
No. E

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Open

*Draft.*

R.R. Stokes Esq.,  
M.P.,  
29, Palace St,  
London S.W.1.

*from Dr. Beik*

FOREIGN OFFICE, 2A

S.W.1.

15th September 1947

E 8512

J.E.O.

*Dear Mr Stokes*

Your Private Secretary telephoned on Saturday to ask for details of the Hungarian children discovered among the Jewish illegal immigrants on board the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD". Thirty children have been discovered <sup>up till now</sup> ~~so far~~, but it has not yet been possible to identify them all, or to arrange their repatriation, since <sup>most of the</sup> ~~the Jews in the two camps at Pöppendorf and Amstow~~ have so far successfully <sup>hidden the</sup> ~~thwarted~~ <sup>majority</sup> ~~our attempt~~ by dispersing <sup>them</sup> ~~the children~~ among different families and by ordering a boycott of the childrens' school.

2. The following is a detailed account of these children based on the information <sup>given to</sup> ~~obtained by~~ His Majesty's Political Representative in Budapest <sup>by their</sup> ~~by~~ parents:-

"The parents of fourteen Hungarian children whom they believe to have been shipped by various Jewish organizations on the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" have appealed to the British Political Representative in Budapest to assist them in securing the repatriation of their sons and daughters.

It is possible that the careful screening of the illegal immigrants from the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" planned by British officials in Germany may reveal more than two hundred cases, in Hungary alone, of families deliberately broken up by the Zionists. The authorities in the British Zone of Germany are already making plans for the speedy repatriation of the children.

The case histories of ten of the children  
show/

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1	1	1	1	1	1

Reference:

FO 371/61827

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show the clearest evidence of a deliberate and calculated campaign which has been carried on by Zionist organizations in Hungary for fully two years

The leading organization in this traffic in children is a Marxist Zionist youth movement named "Hasomer Hacair", with Headquarters at 89, Andrassy Ut, Budapest.

The children appear to have left Hungary in two groups of approximately one hundred each, the first in January and the second in July, 1946. Both groups were

taken to Ansbach in Bavaria and <sup>in this connection</sup> one parent has given the address of the "Sanatorium Strut" in that town. There may have been other places used since another parent alleges that his child went to Leipheim and Salzburg, while yet another mentions ASCHAV near MUNICH.

In most cases the parents were not consulted at all before the children left Budapest and in many cases indeed, there was no contact of any sort between the organization and the parents. Later a few of the parents received information that the children would be taken to Palestine legally and would be taught languages and trade while waiting an immigration certificate.

The names of the children concerned have been withheld in order to protect the parents from any possible victimization, but the following details describe the experiences of some of the children, as told to the British Political

Representative/

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3A

Representative in Budapest:

I.Z. had been left behind in Budapest when his mother was taken to a concentration camp by the Germans. In 1945 he joined up in the Hasomer Hacair organization and that summer his mother returned. The boy was then 13. He left Budapest in June, 1946 without his parents' consent.

K.F. left Budapest in January, 1946, again under the auspices of Hasomer Hacair who promised his mother that the child would be taken to Palestine legally, and while awaiting his immigration certificate would live at the "Sanatorium Strut at Ansbach in Germany. His mother was unwilling to let him go but she finally gave way to pressure. On July 8th the child wrote saying that he was about to leave for Palestine via Marseilles and promised to write from Marseilles but failed to do so. Hasomer Hacair finally stated in a reply to the mother's enquiries that the child was definitely on the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD". The child is now aged 15.

A.K. also left Budapest in January, 1946, telling his mother he was going on a ten days camping trip with the organization. Two weeks later a member of Hacair told the mother that her son would not return and that he had been sent to Germany, prior to going to Palestine legally. On July 8th, 1947, he wrote to say that he was leaving that day for Palestine. The child is now 16.

B.A. was found by his mother in a hostel run by the American Red Cross at Bekescaba in South East Hungary when she returned from Belsen. She saw him only once more, when he came/

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came to say goodbye before leaving with a group in July, 1946. He wrote once from Ansbach in August, 1946. His parents were never in contact at any time with the Zionist Organization. The child is 13. Two other children have the same history.

M.N. joined a Zionist Organization in Budapest, which was run as a club for young persons with Headquarters in the same building as Hasomer Hacair. Just before he left in January, 1946, M. told his father that he was going to Palestine. His father tried to stop him but the son threatened to run away. At no time did the organization approach his father or seek in any way to obtain his consent."

*JB Sept. 15*

*Yours sincerely  
(Sgt) John Beilke*

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4A  
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

(E 8512/48/31)

16th September, 1947.

*Dear Mr Stokes*

Your Private Secretary telephoned on Saturday to ask for details of the Hungarian children discovered among the Jewish illegal immigrants on board the "President Warfield". Thirty children have been discovered up till now, but it has not yet been possible to identify them all or to arrange their repatriation, since the rest of the Jews have so far successfully hidden the majority by dispersing them among different families and by ordering a boycott of the childrens' school.

2. The following is a detailed account of these children based on the information given to His Majesty's Political Representative in Budapest by their parents:-

"The parents of fourteen Hungarian children whom they believe to have been shipped by various Jewish organizations on the "President Warfield" have appealed to the British Political Representative in Budapest to assist them in securing the repatriation of their sons and daughters.

It is possible that the careful screening of the illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield" planned by British officials in Germany may reveal more than two hundred cases, in Hungary alone, of families deliberately broken up by the Zionists. The authorities in the British Zone of Germany are already making plans for the speedy repatriation of the children.

R.R. Stokes, Esq., M.P.,  
32, Victoria Street,  
S.W. 1.

The /

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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The case histories of ten of the children show the clearest evidence of a deliberate and calculated campaign which has been carried on by Zionist organizations in Hungary for fully two years.

The leading organization in this traffic in children is a Marxist Zionist youth movement named "Hasomer Hacair", with Headquarters at 89, Andrassy Ut, Budapest.

The children appear to have left Hungary in two groups of approximately one hundred each, the first in January and the second in July, 1946. Both groups were taken to Ansbach in Bavaria and in this connexion one parent has given the address of the "Sanatorium Strut" in that town. There may have been other places used since another parent alleges that his child went to Leipheim and Salzburg, while yet another mentions Aschau near Munich.

In most cases the parents were not consulted at all before the children left Budapest and in many cases indeed, there was no contact of any sort between the organization and the parents. Later a few of the parents received information that the children would be taken to Palestine legally and would be taught languages and trade while waiting an immigration certificate.

The names of the children concerned have been withheld in order to protect the parents from any possible victimization, but the following details describe the experiences of some of the children, as told to the British Political Representative in Budapest:

I. Z. /

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61827

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I.2. had been left behind in Budapest when his mother was taken to a concentration camp by the Germans. In 1945 he joined up in the Hasomer Hacair organization and that summer his mother returned. The boy was then 13. He left Budapest in June, 1946 without his parents' consent.

K.F. left Budapest in January, 1946, again under the auspices of Hasomer Hacair who promised his mother that the child would be taken to Palestine legally, and while awaiting his immigration certificate would live at the "Sanatorium Strut" at Ansbach in Germany. His mother was unwilling to let him go but she finally gave way to pressure. On July 3th the child wrote saying that he was about to leave for Palestine via Marseilles and promised to write from Marseilles but failed to do so. Hasomer Hacair finally stated in a reply to the mother's enquiries that the child was definitely on the "President Warfield". The child is now aged 15.

A.K. also left Budapest in January, 1946, telling his mother he was going on a ten days camping trip with the organization. Two weeks later a member of the Hacair told the mother that her son would not return and that he had been sent to Germany, prior to going to Palestine legally. On July 8th, 1947, he wrote to say that he was leaving that day for Palestine. The child is now 16.

B.A. was found by his mother in a hostel run by the American Red Cross at Bekescaba in South East Hungary when she returned from Belsen. She saw him only once more, when he came to say goodbye before leaving with a group in July, 1946. He wrote once from Ansbach in August, 1946. His parents were never in contact at

any/

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371 61827

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any time with the Zionist Organization. The child is 13. Two other children have the same history.

M.N. joined a Zionist Organization in Budapest, which was run as a club for young persons with Headquarters in the same building as Hasomer Hachair. Just before he left in January, 1946, M. told his father that he was going to Palestine. His father tried to stop him but the son threatened to run away. At no time did the organization approach his father or seek in any way to obtain his consent."

Yours sincerely  
(J.G.S.) John Beith

(J.G.S. Beith)

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RRS/MA

8

32, Victoria Street,  
LONDON.S.W.1.

22nd September, 1947.

Ref.(E 8512/48/31)

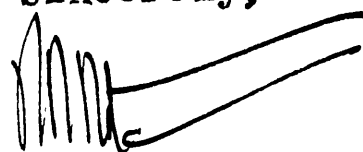
John Beith Esq.,  
Foreign Office,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.

INDEXED

Dear Mr. Beith,

I am obliged to you for your letter of the 16th September about the kidnapping of Hungarian children by the Zionists for illegal transport to Palestine. I have read your letter with interest but before taking further action I should be obliged if you would clear up an ambiguity which exists in the opening paragraph of your letter. Am I to understand that the Foreign Office is now taking active steps to get hold of the children and send them back to their parents? If this is the case then I must await results.

I am,  
Yours sincerely,



R.R. STOKES.

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FO 371 / 61827

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Registry  
No. EF512/48/31  
J.G.S.B.

*Draft.*

<del>Top Secret</del>
<del>Secret</del>
Confidential.
<del>Restricted</del>
<del>Open</del>

Mr. Stokes, M.P.,  
32 Victoria  
Street,  
London, S.W.1.

*M. Moore  
(C.R. Sept)  
agrees*

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

29 September, 1947.

*Deal Mr. Stokes*

Thank you for your letter of  
September 22nd asking for information as  
to whether the British authorities are  
taking active steps to send the Hungarian  
children amongst the "President Warfield"  
party back to their parents in Hungary.

The authorities of the British Zone of  
Germany have been asked to do all they can  
to find the children and to facilitate their  
return to Hungary and the Hungarian authorities  
have also been asked to co-operate. Some  
of the parents have suggested travelling  
from Hungary to identify their children  
and we are undertaking to help them,  
provided they pay their own expenses.  
Nevertheless, as I said in my earlier letter,  
the other Jews in the camps are doing their  
best to frustrate any efforts to send the  
children back and no final arrangements  
have yet been reached. *the 30 children*

*Whom I mentioned in my  
earlier letter are still only  
thought to be from Hungary.*

*and  
then*

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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and they persist in giving  
false names, which makes  
it very difficult to identify  
~~them~~ the ones we are looking  
for

JB sept. 27

yours sincerely,

(Sgd) John Beich

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FO 371/61827

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

OUT FILE

29th September, 1947. 10

(E 8512/48/31)

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Mr. Stokes

Thank you for your letter of the 22nd September asking for information as to whether the British authorities are taking active steps to send the Hungarian children amongst the "President Warfield" party back to their parents in Hungary.

The authorities of the British Zone of Germany have been asked to do all they can to find the children and to facilitate their return to Hungary and the Hungarian authorities have also been asked to co-operate. Some of the parents have suggested travelling from Hungary to identify their children and we are undertaking to help them, provided they pay their own expenses. Nevertheless, as I said in my earlier letter, the other Jews in the camps are doing their best to frustrate any efforts to send the children back and no final arrangements have yet been reached. The thirty children whom I mentioned in my earlier letter are still only thought to be from Hungary. They persist in giving false names, which makes it very difficult to identify the ones we are looking for.

Yours sincerely,  
(Signed) John Beith

(J.G.S. Beith)

R.R. Stokes, Esq., M.P.,  
32, Victoria Street,  
S.W.1.

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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RRS/MA

E 8512/48 / 31

3 OCT 1947

INDEXED

32, Victoria Street,  
LONDON.S.W.1.

2nd October, 1947.

John Beith Esq.,  
Foreign Office,  
Whitehall, S.W.1.

Dear Mr. Beith,

Thank you for your prompt reply to my letter of the 22nd September. I shall look forward to hearing further news in due course but meanwhile is anything being done to make known to the general public the villainous acts carried out by these Jews in the form of stealing other people's children for transport to Palestine? If there has been any such publication I should be very much obliged if you would draw my attention to it, otherwise I would propose myself to put the wheels in motion.

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

*R.R. Stokes*  
R.R. STOKES. pp.

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325

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E 8515

12

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry  
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8515/48/31

4th Broad

Warsaw

106 Aug  
13 Sept  
15 -Repatriation to Poland of children on  
President WarfieldRe: P.O. 2410 & Berlin (E 7488/48/9)  
Article story from "Times" of Sept 8 re  
children taken from their parents and put  
aboard "President Warfield" whose families are  
anxious to have them back in Poland  
Suggest obtaining information from I.R.O.

Last Paper.

8512

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ J.G.P.  
Sept 22.Tel, Warsaw 1215  
18 Sept.4/ J.G.P.  
Sept 22.(Action  
completed.)

(Index.)

J.G.P. 20/9

J.G.P. 20/9

Next Paper.

8516

(Minutes.)

I think it wd be useful from  
the propaganda point of view  
to take up the suggestion made  
in the second para. of this  
tel. Perhaps U.N.(E) Dept.  
would say how best we  
could set about it i.e. through  
what channel?

U.N.(E) Dept - first

J.G.P. Bent  
Sept. 16

I think that Warsaw are ~~acting~~ under the impression that  
I.R.O are running the camps for these Jews or that they had something  
to do with the transfer of these children to France. This is not the case,  
and it would seem advisable to ask Lubbecke to make the necessary  
enquiries, once Warsaw can let us have the names of these  
children.

J.G.P. 18.1X  
N. Dept.

32003 F.O.P.

Draft to Warsaw

J.G.P. 17

J.G.P. Bent  
Sept. 17

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FO 371/61827

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13  
E 8515  
SEP 1 1947

En Clair  
by confidential bag

DEPARTMENTAL No. 2

FROM WARSAW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Broad

No. 106 Saving

13th September, 1947 R. 9.55 a.m. 15th September, 1947

Repeated to Berlin No. 36

8 8 8 8 8

Your telegram No. 2410 to Berlin (Jews sent to Hamburg).

I note from "Times" of September 8th that among this party of Jews were a number of children taken from their parents. I have been reliably informed here that in fact among the Jews landed at Hamburg were a number of children taken to Germany last year (presumably illegally), and whose families are anxious to have them repatriated to Poland.

2. According to my informant, these children were taken from camps in the United States zone of Germany to France without the knowledge or consent of their parents. It might be possible to obtain confirmation or otherwise of the above story through the International Refugee Organisation in the United States zone of Germany.

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(13555) Wt. 43698-114 200m 2/47 G.S.St. Gp. 620

Registry  
No. E8515/48/31

~~Top Secret.~~  
~~Secret.~~  
Confidential.  
~~Restricted.~~  
~~Open.~~

Draft.

Warsaw

Tel 1215  
Sept 18.

Reper

Lutbecke

Berlin 2780

Sept 1. No. 2

Cypher

Copies 11A

Noting Sept 18. 1X  
Just

15 Sept. 17

OUT FILE

Date 12/9

Despatched 10 10 A M

14

Confidential

Your tel. No. 106 saving [of  
Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>: Jewish illegal  
immigration]

the parents of 14  
Hungarian children thought  
to be with the President  
"Warfield" party approached  
His Majesty's Minister  
at Budapest with  
a view to securing the  
return of the children.  
The authorities of the  
British Zone of Germany  
have been asked to  
facilitate

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facilitate their return and  
His Majesty's Minister  
Hungary has asked the  
Hungarian Govt. to  
cooperate. It is however  
proving difficult to discover  
the children owing to the  
obstructive <sup>tactics</sup> of the ~~authorities~~  
~~and~~ other Jews.

2. If you can communicate  
the names of the <sup>Polish</sup> children and the parents  
so wish,  
we are willing to do our  
best to find and return  
them. IRO are not  
concerned

10 Sept. 18

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

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FO 37 61827

15  
E8515/48/31

Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO WARSAW.

No. 1215

18th September 1947. D. 10.10 a.m. 19th September 1947

Repeated to: Lubbecke  
Berlin No. 2780

V V V

CONFIDENTIAL.

Your telegram No. 106 Saving [of September 13th:  
Jewish illegal immigration].

The parents of 14 Hungarian children thought to be with the "President Warfield" party approached His Majesty's Minister at Budapest with a view to securing the return of the children. The authorities of the British Zone of Germany have been asked to facilitate their return and His Majesty's Minister has asked the Hungarian Government to cooperate. It is however proving difficult to discover the children owing to the obstructive tactics of the other Jews.

2. If you can communicate the names of the Polish children and the parents so wish, we are willing to do our best to find and return them. I.R.O. are not concerned.

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E 8516

16

1947

PALESTINE

Registry  
Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8516/48/31

Mr Roberts

Morocco

20.71

14 Sept

15

Last Paper.

8515

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action  
completed.)

(Index.)

26/9

28/9/48

Next Paper.

E 8526

Landing of Jews at Hamburg, Russian Port.

From account appearing in various  
 Soviet newspapers of the landing of  
 the Jews ex President Warfield at Hamburg  
 and of the fingerprinting of same at  
 Potsdam

(Minutes.)

7/318/9/47.

Northern Dept.

Infm. Policy Dept. 24/9

Mr. Gervis  
Sept. 16R.G.  
V.14/9

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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CLAIR

E 8516

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION  
FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr Roberts  
No: 2071

14th September 1947

D.9.55 p.m. 14th September 1947

R.1.45 a.m. 15th September 1947

Repeated to British Middle East Office Cairo No:46  
Jerusalem U/n.  
Berlin No:241

4 4 4 4

Illegal Jewish immigration into Palestine.

Landing of Jews in Hamburg is mentioned for the first time in three Tass messages filling two-thirds of a column in Pravda and Izvestiya of September 13th. Principal message under a Berlin date line describes how force was used to compel Jews to disembark and "terrible scenes" which took place after expiry of ultimatum calling on passengers to land voluntarily. It is alleged British troops broke into holds of transports drenching those who offered resistance with water from fire hoses and beating them with truncheons. Many were gravely wounded. Persons disembarked were packed into trains with iron gratings over windows and taken to camps which gave the impression of concentration camps, having watch tower with projectors, high barbed wire fences and a military guard. Other two messages report protests in United States against brutal methods employed by British authorities.

2. Above publicity has coincided with publication in latest issue of "Newtimes" of an international note entitled "A shameful story" which comments for the first time on British treatment of illegal Jewish immigrants. After recalling "high-sounding phrases in favour of a just and humane treatment of the Jewish people" which occurred in the report of the Anglo-American Commission on Palestine and in speeches by British delegates at the special session of the General Assembly, commentator remarks that "at every step life is exposing the hypocrisy of such statements", and quotes the "recent Jewish pogroms in London" as evidence of this. If the British authorities maintained that they bore no direct responsibility for these pogroms, the events occurring at the same time in the Mediterranean "clearly revealed the attitude of the British authorities towards the Jewish people".

3. The commentator then gives an account of the events referred to. The 4,500 Jews, he says, "evidently guided by the Palestine Commission's recommendation to allow 10,000 Jewish immigrants to enter Palestine", decided to make their way there without official permission because they do not wish to build their future in Western Germany, where the British and American authorities have preserved so much of Nazi ways and manners. But a British warship

opened /

SEP 15 1947  
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OCT 1 1947

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Reference: FO 371/61827

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opened fire on "Exodus 1947" and British sailors boarded her, beat up the Jews, used tear gas, and caused casualties among the passengers. After this "brilliant victory" the British transferred the immigrants to three British vessels which took them to Port de Boue where they refused to land. On July 30th Labour Ministers decided not to allow the immigrants to land either in Palestine or Cyprus. But the British authorities did not decide to force the Jews to land. They took other steps described in a letter passed to a correspondent which read: "we are living in intolerable conditions from the point of view of hygiene. A sickening smell spreads over the whole ship. Beatings await us for the slightest misdemeanour. The refugees declared a hunger strike and there were clashes between them and the British soldiers." Finally the British Government decided to send the refugees to "German concentration camps" near Hamburg and the British Embassy in Paris gave them to understand that they should be disembarked by force.

4. The commentator concludes by saying that "public opinion has resolutely condemned the British authorities' actions" and that "independently of the solution of Palestine problem as a whole such methods with regards to refugees evoke concern in the very widest circles of democratic public opinion".

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my unnumbered telegram.

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

324

19

E

E 8526

1947

PALESTINE

16 SEP

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8526/48/31.

J. Addis

No 10

to Mr. Addis

11 Sept

16 -

Camp - Germany for 'Exodus' Refugees

Enclosed copy of reply which Mr. Silverman  
has now sent to the P.M. letter of Sept. 9.  
re the 'Preston Warfield' Jews.

Last Paper

8516

References

8275/48/31.

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Spt. M. Blake

M. Labou

from

in 1st conference - Major  
(enes)

✓ Oct. 16

(Action  
completed)

(Ind)

Next Paper

8531

(Minutes.)

German Refugee Dept.

(J.E. CABLE)

16/9

10 Sept. 16

P.P. J.M. Addis to P. Keana. 16/9

We do not appear to have received  
any previous letter from the Ministry of Labour.  
I suggest that we should send them  
a copy of the Prime Minister's letter to  
Mr. Silverman (E 8275) and of Mr. Silverman's  
rejoinder (in this paper). Tell them that  
the Prime Minister has decided & not  
to continue the correspondence and leave  
the next step to them.

I submit draft accordingly.

H.S. Deane  
Oct. 10

(J.E. CABLE)

17/10 10/10

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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22 P.P. J. Blake M/Labour to W. H. H. H. 8/10

01

1917

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Reference:

FO 371/61827



E 8523

10, Downing Street,  
Whitehall.

11th September, 1947

149.

My dear John,

I enclose a copy of the reply which  
Mr. Silverman has now sent to the Prime Minister's  
letter of the 9th September about the Warfield  
Jews.

The Prime Minister has decided that he will  
send no reply to Mr. Silverman's further letter.

I am sending copies of this letter and of its  
enclosure to D.M. Smith (Colonial Office),  
Richard Wood (Ministry of Defence) and Henley (Lord  
President's Office).

Yours ever,  
John Addison

J.P.E.C. Henniker, Esq., M.C.  
Foreign Office.

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371/61827

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10

10th September, 1947

I am obliged by your letter dated the 6th September, which I have received this morning. The information contained in it is information which has already been officially given me but I am bound to point out that it is in strong conflict with the accounts given by competent and responsible eye witnesses which have reached me from other quarters. Moreover, a good deal of your letter refers not to conditions as they now exist but to promised improvements which are not yet fact.

I am sorry I cannot accept the statement in your last paragraph that the British Zone in Germany was selected as the only place where accommodation could be found at short notice. I should have thought the British Zone of Germany had so many problems of accommodation of its own that it was of all the places in the world, the least suitable for this purpose, even if the political and human objections were ignored.

I think that the decision is wholly indefensible and a permanent stain on the proud record of your Government. I need only remind you that the French Government whose obligations in this matter are certainly no greater than ours, offered these people refuge in France as free and equal citizens. I cannot imagine why the British Government was unable to make a similar honourable offer.

Yours sincerely,

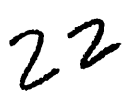
(SGD.) SYDNEY SILVERMAN

The Rt. Hon. Mr. Clement Attlee, M.P

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**



8126 48 / 71

F. M. VITTA 330. E. B. E.

Foreign Office.

With the compliments  
of

J. L. ADDIS, ESC.

10, Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

10th September, 1947.

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

*Put with E*  
10, Downing Street, 23

S.W.1.

16th September, 1947.

*Dear Brown,*

I understand from Kinna at the Foreign Office that you would like to see a copy of the reply which the Prime Minister sent to the letter which Mr. Sydney Silverman sent to him on September 3rd about the Warfield Jews, and also in identical terms to a number of other Ministers. I enclose a copy of the Prime Minister's reply, which was sent after consultation with the Foreign Office, and also a copy of Mr. Silverman's further <sup>letter</sup> reply dated September 10th. The President may care to know that the Prime Minister decided not to send any further reply to this second letter.

*Yours sincerely*  
*J. H. H.*

C.M.P. Brown, Esq.,  
Board of Trade.

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Reference:

FO

371

61827

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*E. Dept.*  
*PK.*  
*9/x.*  
24  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND  
NATIONAL SERVICE,  
ST. JAMES'S SQUARE,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

8th October, 1947.  
*8/26/47*

Dear Henniker,

James sent you on 8th September a letter my Minister had received from Mr. Silverman, M.P., about the conditions in the camps in Germany to which the "Exodus" refugees have been sent.

I am wondering whether you are yet in a position to let us have your comments on this to enable my Minister to send a reply to the M.P.

Yours sincerely,

(J. BLAKE)

J.P.E.C. Henniker-Major, Esq., M.C.,  
Foreign Office,  
Downing Street,  
S.W.1.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

Reference: **FO** 371 / 61827

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16am  
16pm  
25

~~Top Secret.~~  
Secret.  
~~Confidential.~~  
Restricted.  
~~Open.~~

J. E. C.

*Draft.*

Mr. Blake  
Ministry of Labour

J.P.E.F.  
Mr. Henniker-Major

Private Property

It's fine!  
10/1x!

JB Oct. 10

Perhaps we could  
save typing by  
replying to my  
of Labour really?  
HB

E 8275

E8526

My dear Blake,

I am sorry to say that I can find no trace of James' letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> September, to which you referred in your letter of 8<sup>th</sup> October about Mr. Silbermann's ~~letter on the~~ ~~subject of the camps in Germany~~ protest against conditions in the camps housing the Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield".

Mr. Silbermann sent identical

2. Mr. Silverman sent identical letters on this subject to a number of Ministers and it was decided that a single reply should be sent to him from the Prime Minister. I now enclose a copy of the Prime Minister's letter and of Mr. Silverman's rejoinder, ~~to~~ which the Prime Minister has decided not to answer.

Yours ever

(Sed.) John Kemmer. 7. 11/8

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

33854) WT.14696/147 75,000 6/47 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

**Reference:**

FO 371 61827

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OUT FILE  
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

26

16th October, 1947.

(E 8526/48/31)  
RESTRICTED.

My dear Blake,

I am sorry to say that I can find no trace of James' letter of the 8th September, to which you referred in your letter of 8th October about Mr. Silverman's protest against conditions in the camps housing the Jewish illegal immigrants from the "President Warfield".

2. Mr. Silverman sent identical letters on this subject to a number of Ministers and it was decided that a single reply should be sent to him from the Prime Minister. I now enclose a copy of the Prime Minister's letter and of Mr. Silverman's rejoinder, which the Prime Minister has decided not to answer.

Yours ever

(Sgd.) John Henniker.

(J.P. E.C. Henniker)

Esq.,  
Ministry of Labour.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61827

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828

E

E 8531

27

1947

PALESTINE

16 SEP

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

8531/48/31

7.0 Minute

in Berch.

9 Sept

16 -

Disembarkation of Jews at Hamburg.

"Rennymede Park" was emptied of Jews at  
approx 2-30 pm 9 Sept. O.G. and troops  
of escort are mostly of particular praise  
having spent about 5 weeks shot up at  
the quarters and appear to have maintained  
"remarkably good" relations with the Jews.

Last Paper.

85-26

References.

(Minutes.)

Under the point

22/9

In P.P. C.R.O. 763 21/8

7.0 Minute, P. Kenna. 8/9.

23/9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action  
completed.)

(Index)

22/9

28/9/48

Next Paper.

8560

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.P.

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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E 8531

16 SEP 1947

E 28

Disembarkation of the Jewish Illegal Immigrants from the "President Warfield" on arrival at Hamburg.

It is now confirmed that the last of the three British transports, "Runnymede Park", was emptied of illegal immigrants at approximately 2.30 p.m. this afternoon. The Jews from this ship resisted more strongly than those in the other two, as was expected, but the few casualties are not reported to be serious.

It is clear that all concerned have done a very good job and the O.C. troops and men of the escort are worthy of particular praise. They have spent about 5 weeks shut up at close quarters with the Jewish illegal immigrants and appear to have maintained remarkably good relations with the majority of them. It is noteworthy that the second ship, the "Empire Rival", was cleared without any fuss, the passengers disembarking peacefully.

I submit a draft telegram to the Commander-in-Chief at Lubbecke, which the Secretary of State may wish to send.

*J. G. S. Beith*

(J. G. S. Beith).  
9th September, 1947.

*It might be as well if the Private Secretaries were to clear this with the Minister of War's Private Office, as O.C. reports is a military officer.*

*SIS for War has been agreed.*

*9/9  
9/5*

*9/9 Tel sent*

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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E 8531

16 SEP 1947

28

Disembarkation of the Jewish Illegal Immigrants from the "President Warfield" on arrival at Hamburg.

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It is clear that all concerned have done a very good job and the O.C. troops and men of the escort are worthy of particular praise. They have spent about 5 weeks shut up at close quarters with the Jewish illegal immigrants and appear to have maintained remarkably good relations with the majority of them. It is noteworthy that the second ship, the "Empire Rival", was cleared without any fuss, the passengers disembarking peacefully.

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*J. G. S. Beith*

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9th September, 1947.

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*SS for was has agreed*

*9/9*

*9/9 Tel sent*

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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*Minutes.*

INDEXED

pw

20

SECRETARY OF STATE.



**SITUATION REPORT - JEWISH  
IMMIGRANTS HAMBURG**

6 a.m. 25 sick were-taken off without any trouble.

An announcement was then made that the rest were invited to leave.

There was no response but a spokesman of the Jews said they would like a token military guard put on board. 20 disarmed Airborne troops were on board and 400 Jews then came ashore. There was no trouble. These were ashore by about 8.30 a.m.

By 9.30 they started coming to the hard core of the resistance and some persuasion was needed but they were still coming off.

They are now about half way through.

The volunteers for France are being taken to camps and will be put on a train for France as soon as possible.

P. 2K.

8.9.47

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

### References:

FO 371 61827

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30

*H.O.P.*

*Harfolk House.*

*Please attach Ed  
sent to Lubbock  
re enclosed*

*E. DIVN.*

*Eastern Division.*

*Copy of  
relevant telegram was  
inserted in file.  
Hills.  
19/9/47.*

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1					

Reference:

**FO** 371 41827

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# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

11 SEP 1947

2  
3

NO 4903 BASIC

CONFIDENTIAL

10th September 1947

IMPORTANT

Repeated Berlin No 3165 BASIC . D.lpm. 10th September 1947

Following personal from the Secretary of State for  
Commander-in-Chief.

I congratulate you on the success of the disembarkation proceedings at Hamburg.

2. Please convey an expression of my personal appreciation to all concerned and in particular to the Officer Commanding the escorts on board the three transports and the troops under his command.

Originator. Mr Beith  
Distribution. Cabinet  
Oasis

G/317  
24  
AFM/RHJ

## References

FO 371 / 61827

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15 SEP 1947

O U T W A R D     T E L E G R A M

O.D.

TO: CANADA (GOVT.)  
AUSTRALIA "  
NEW ZEALAND "  
SOUTH AFRICA "

D. No. 763 SECRET.

"PRESIDENT WARFIELD".

2. On 8th September majority of passengers of transport "OCEAN VIGOUR" disembarked without resort to force. For the rest, there was only one minor casualty.

3. On 9th September, all passengers from "EMPIRE RIVAL" disembarked voluntarily. Time bomb was discovered in hold of "EMPIRE RIVAL", but was safely removed.

4. Passengers on board "RUNNYMEDE PARK" resisted disembarkation and considerable number of troops had to be employed to clear ship. There were no fatal or serious casualties. A few Jews suffered minor injuries.

5. All Jews have now been removed for screening to camps, with exception of small number of sick who are remaining in hospital in Hamburg. French Government are still prepared to receive any Jews from "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" who volunteer to go to France and it is our intention that all such volunteers shall be despatched as soon as possible.

Copy to:-

Foreign Office

C.R.O. (King Charles St.)

Mr. F.T.A. Ashton-Gwatkin  
Mr. J.P.G. Finch (4)  
Mr. H. Beeley  
Mr. K. Barnes (2)

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1		2			

Re

FO 371/61827

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P

E

E 8578 33

1947

PALESTINE

Registry  
Number

E8578/48/31

FROM

C. Lawrence

No.

Washington

Dated

15/29/47

Received  
in Registry

13 R. 17 ~

U.S. Reply to Protest re President Warfield  
Affairs.Transmit text of reply U.S. propose to  
send to persons who have read them  
protest re sending of Jews ex "President  
Warfield" to Germany.

Last Paper

81-60

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8/80 Higham  
Sept 19(Action  
completed)

J.C. 1629/9

(In)

15/28/48

Next Paper

8570

Copy to <sup>(Minutes.)</sup> C.O. (Mr. Higham)N.A. Defn  
(C.O.) 24/9Fable  
(J.E. CABLE)  
17/9

Fairly satisfactory

H.S. Bens  
Sept. 17P.C.  
V. 8/9

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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E 8578

BRITISH EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

13th September 1947

Ref: 15/294/47  
CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Department,

You may like to know that the State Department have shown us in confidence a copy of a letter which they propose now to address to individuals and bodies who have sent them protests about the dispatch to Hamburg of the Jews taken from the PRESIDENT WARFIELD, or who have requested U.S. intervention.

2. The reply begins by stating that the U.S. Government have felt considerable concern about the matter and that they have expressed their concern to H.M.G. It then goes on to say that H.M.G. have explained in reply:

(a) That in the short time available no alternative destination could be found where these people could be adequately looked after;

(b) That they had been given full opportunity to disembark in France, and

(c) That they will now have the same status and facilities as other displaced persons and will still be free to go to France if they so wish. The reply ends by saying that the U.S. Government continue to watch the situation carefully.

3. This is, we think, reasonably satisfactory from our point of view. The State Department have been under very heavy pressure to do something and could hardly have avoided a reference to the fact

/that

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371/61827

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that they had expressed their concern to H.M.G. On the other hand their reply, while not going into the larger issues, does state some of the practical considerations which H.M.G. have advanced in answer to attacks on their decision.

4. In response to questions at a Press Conference on September 10th, Mr. Marshall is reported to have referred to the U.S. Government's action in rather stronger terms. According to the press he said that U.S. officials were keenly aware of the unfortunate effects which would flow from the British decision and that the British Government had been urged in vain to reconsider it. They had replied that the only available housing facilities were in Germany. Mr. Marshall also remarked that the French offer of admittance was still open and that the refugees need not therefore remain in Germany.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

*Ja*

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

37A

36

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E 8570

1947

PALESTINE

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E8579/48/31

Chancery

Washington

9/24/47

10 Sept

17 ~

Repatriation of DP's from French to British  
zones of Germany.Refer W 'Ton letter (E7726/48/31) now  
enclose copy of reply from State Dept  
on subject, together with copy of letter  
from Embassy to which it refers.

Last Paper

81-88

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Opt. J.P. Bromley

Embassy, Paris

enc

Sent Oct 2

Comp: J. Bromley

Embassy

W'Ton

Sent Oct 2

(Action  
completed)

J.E.M. 10/2/48

(Index)

28/9/48

Next Paper

81-83

(Minutes.)

I think the U.S. Govt are being  
needlessly obstinate on this point. As  
the question at issue is not, however, one  
which directly affects British interests,  
but one which we have supported  
in order to assist the French Govt,  
it hardly seems worth while to make  
a "top-level issue" of it.

I think we might send a  
copy of this correspondence to Paris and  
ask them to tell the M.F.A. that  
we have done our best on their  
behalf but have failed to move  
the U.S. Govt.

J. H. Cable  
(J.E. CABLE)

I agree, in present circumstances. 19/9

It is not worth pressing this hard

German (Doc.) Sept 12/48.

I agree.

/g

J. H. Cable  
Sept. 19

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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36A

CJ. E. CABLE

25/4

JB Sept. 26

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### References:

FO 371 / 61827

E 8579

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

10th September 1947

Ref: G124/ /47

SECRET

Dear Department,

Would you please refer to our letter G124/-/47 of August 13th about receiving back trainloads of displaced persons which might illegally cross from the British Zone to the French Zone in Germany.

2. We now enclose a copy of the reply which we have received from the State Department on this subject, together with a copy of the Embassy letter to which it refers. The second paragraph of the former deals with the separate topic of the Tripartite Travel Agreement affecting the three western zones of Germany, which is now in a fair way towards ratification. (See German Department's letter to Chancery C11246/106/18 of August 29th).

3. The State Department's reply is, as you will see, unsatisfactory and gets us no further; the U.S. military authorities are not prepared to agree that they should receive back individuals unless they can be proved to have originated within the U.S. zone of occupation.

4. While the omens are not good of course, you will no doubt let us know if you wish us to make a top-level issue of this.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
London, S.W.1.

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: FO 371/61827

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38

13th August 1947

Ref: G124/ /47

**SECRET**

My dear Mr. Warren,

As I think you know, British and French representatives have been discussing in Paris the question of emigrant trains wishing to enter the French Zone of Germany from the American and British Zones. As a result of these discussions, General Koenig has laid down the rule that the Displaced Persons Directorate of the French Zone will inform the Transport and Security Directorates of the timetable and composition of all authorized displaced person trains. Any other displaced persons trains will automatically be considered as clandestine immigrant trains and will either be turned back at the frontier or held up within the French Zone. General Bethouart is to be invited by the French authorities to enforce similar measures in the French Zone of Austria.

2. It was, however, pointed out to the British representatives at the discussions that it would be impossible for the French Zone Commander to house the immigrants and that the French authorities therefore required an assurance from the British authorities that they would take back into the British Zone trainloads which came illegally from that Zone. The French representatives at these discussions said that a similar request had been made by them to the United States authorities.

3. The British authorities are prepared to

Mr. George Warren,  
Office of the Assistant  
Secretary for Occupied Areas,  
State Department,  
Washington, D.C.

/receive

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Reference:

**FO**

371

61827

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receive back trainloads which may enter the French Zone illegally from the British Zone and we were instructed in May, when Sir John Balfour wrote to Mr. Acheson, to express the earnest hope of H.M.G. that the U.S. Government would also accept the arrangement proposed by the French in so far as illegal trainloads which might come from the U.S. Zone were concerned. This would serve as a valuable safeguard to the general agreement which we hope to see concluded concerning the exit provisions of the Tripartite Travel Agreement affecting the three western zones of Germany, the U.S. amendments of which were, we understand, sent to General Clay some weeks ago.

4. We have since heard that the French Government have been informed by the U.S. Embassy in Paris that the U.S. military authorities in Germany will only accept back individuals intercepted while crossing the frontier who can be proved to originate from the U.S. Zone. They will not apparently take back persons who have merely been in transit across the U.S. Zone.

5. The British Zonal authorities, for their part, are, as I mentioned above, prepared to receive back any trainloads which illicitly cross the frontier from the British to the French Zone. They are prepared to receive back individuals shown to have come from, but not necessarily to have originated in, the British Zone, who have subsequently crossed into the French Zone without authority.

6. The Foreign Office feel that if the French Government have correctly represented the U.S. Government's views on the question, the aim of these proposals would not really be achieved, since proof

/of

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61827

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**D.D. Maclean**

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In reply refer to  
A-H/R

September 4, 1947

SECRET

My dear Mr. Maclean:

I have received your letter of August 13, 1947 concerning emigrant trains entering the French Zone of Germany from the American and British Zones. A further search for Sir John Balfour's letter of May 26 to the Under Secretary on the same subject disclosed that it had been improperly routed and the delay in reply thus caused is regretted.

Our latest information concerning the Tripartite Travel Agreement affecting the three Western Zones of Germany is that the Agreement, although informally operating on the working level, has not yet been approved by General Clay.

With respect to the request of the French Government that the United States military authorities accept clandestine immigrants alleged to have originated in the United States zones of occupation, the American Embassy in Paris has informed the French Foreign Office that the United States authorities would be willing to receive back groups of such individuals who are apprehended while crossing the French border by French border guards when it is proved beyond doubt that such persons originated in and

did not

Mr. D. D. Maclean,  
First Secretary,  
British Embassy,  
Washington 8, D. C.

SECRET

41

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1			2	

Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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42

SECRET

-2-

did not merely pass through the United States zones of occupation. It does not appear feasible to the United States military authorities to accept such individuals when they are not turned back at the frontier by French border guards at the time of their attempt at crossing, nor to accept those whose origin in the United States zones of occupation cannot be proved.

Sincerely yours,

George L. Warren  
Adviser on Refugees and  
Displaced Persons

SECRET

19

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

Registry  
No. E 8579/48/31  
J.E.C.

OUTFILE

Draft.

Mr. Crossley  
Paris Embassy

from  
Mr. Beith

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Copy Mr  
Branley  
wafm.

In my letter no. E6155/48/31  
of the 7<sup>th</sup> August about ~~various points~~  
~~of detail as our request to the~~  
~~U.S. Govt the support of the~~  
French request to the U.S. Govt.  
that ~~the~~ U.S. authorities in Germany  
should agree to take back  
train-loads of ~~the U.S. Zone of~~ <sup>displaced</sup> immigrants  
entering the French zone, I told  
you that we were asking  
Washington to let us know the  
position.

2. I now enclose a  
copy of the reply from Washington  
(G.124/147 of Sept 10<sup>th</sup>).  
~~blamey~~ ~~should not consider~~  
the U.S. authorities needlessly  
obstinate on this question, we  
do not propose to press them  
further, as our own interests are  
not directly at stake. I suggest,  
therefore, that you might tell  
the H.F.A. that we have  
done

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**G. A. Crossley, Esq.,  
British Embassy,  
Paris.**

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		1		2	

Reference: **FO 371/61827**



45

E 8583

1947

# PALESTINE

Registry  
Number**FROM**

*No.*

*Dated*

Received  
in Registry

## Last Paper

81-79

## References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

~~Higham 60.~~  
~~Sept. 19~~

see E805-7 for  
letter to sub.  
Sept 20

(Action completed)

(Index)

## Next Paper

E 86 21

Palatial Literature, Opinion in Norway.  
The "President Warfield" affair has  
finally crystallised Norway Public Opinion  
in Palestine in an anti-British direction  
from instances of press publications.

Copy to C. G. (Minutes.) (Mr. Higham)


I doubt if we will ever convince any foreigner that Germany was the only place to which the President Warfield's Jews could be taken. Nor is the readiness of H.M.G. to accept the decision of the U.N., whatever it may be, a subject on which assurances can yet be given.

Copy of letter in E 3057 to Asst Secretary.

Table  
C.T.E. CABL  
17/

Northern Deft.

23/9/47

W. E. I. D. 

LAB Nov. 6

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## References

FO 371 61827



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				2	

Reference: **FO 371/61827**

47

/and perhaps  
also to  
affect its  
judgment of  
other problems  
in which  
British  
interests  
may be  
involved.

Laurence Collier

1 2 3 4 5 6  
 1 2  
 Reference: **FO 371 61827**

Group . . . . .  $F_0$

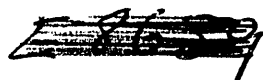
Class . . . 371 . . . . .

Pièce ..... 61827 .....

**Department of origin under Section 3 (4)**

**of the Public Records Act, 1958**

E 8621/48/31



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Reference: **FO 371 / 61827**

<p>459A</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E8624/G</p> <p>19 SEP 1947 48</p>
<p>E8624/48/9</p> <p>31/9</p> <p>Chancery</p> <p>Prague</p> <p>to E Dept</p> <p>56/21/47</p> <p>Dated 12 Sep</p> <p>Received 19 Sep</p>	<p>Jewish illegal immigration organisation in Bratislava</p>	
<p>Last Paper</p> <p>E8511</p>	<p>(Minutes)</p> <p>Copies to: C.O. (Mr. Higham)</p> <p>M.I.S. (Mr. Scher)</p> <p>Cabinet Office (Mr. Llewellyn)</p> <p>20/9</p>	
<p>References</p> <p>E6982/48/9</p>		
<p>(Print)</p>		
<p>(How disposed of)</p> <p>8 Co (Mr. Higham)</p> <p>115 (Mr. Scher)</p> <p>Cabinet Office (Mr. Llewellyn)</p> <p>Sept. 24.</p>		
<p>(Action completed)</p> <p>24/9</p>	<p>(Index)</p> <p>40/4</p>	
<p>Next Paper</p>		

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Reference: FO 371/61827

E 8624

BRITISH EMBASSY,  
PRAGUE.

56/21/47

CONFIDENTIAL.

13th September, 1947.

Dear Department,

In your letter of the 11th August you asked if we could confirm a report you had heard that a branch of the Jewish illegal immigration organisation occupies two rooms in the Government Repatriation Office in Bratislava.

We are sorry that, though we believe that there is such a branch quartered somewhere in Bratislava, we have no evidence to show that it is in the Osídlováci úrad which is probably the office you have in mind. The overt Jewish organisations, the Jewish Agency, Agudath Israel and the American Joint Distribution Committee are quartered elsewhere though that, of course, means nothing.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
S.W.1.

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1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO

371

61827

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E

E 8626

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8626/48/31

Various

18 Sept.

Protecting no leading Jews or President  
"workfield" to Germany.

Various

Last Paper

8621

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

Spt. ①  
②  
③  
④

enc  
Sept 24.  
from Mr. Cable

⑤. Chanery  
Hague

Sept 24  
P.S.O.

(Action  
completed)

(Index)

Sept 24/9

28/9/48

Next Paper

8629

(Minutes.)

- 1) B. Rind
- 2) Truma Lewis
- 3) Heather Tanner
- 4) Bowes Park Womens Boon Field
- 5) M.A. Van Kesteren

These letters (except for no. 5)  
come from professed supporters of the  
Labour Party who are not, prima facie,  
Jews. They might be sent copies of  
our standard reply. No. 5 might go  
to our Embassy at the Hague for reply,  
if they think fit.

Hubley  
(T.E. CABLE)  
18/9

On the basis of our draft, which  
they have had. I agree: the  
draft with in the other Cases  
have to be "by direction"

J.B. Sept. 18

P.T.O.

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FO 371/61827

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⑥ George Lindgard

as for 5

19/9

⑦ I submit draft to C.R.O. as requested by Mr. Kuina.

*J. E. Cable*  
(J.E. CABLE)  
25/9

8 B. Read 2/10

15/10

9) P.T. Bloomfield

as this is from a branch of the Labour Party, the S. of S. may possibly wish to correct the misapprehension implicit in the final phrase of this letter.

*J. E. Cable*  
(J.E. CABLE)  
27/10

I have had a word with Mr Kuina about this. From the departmental point of view I think we should be inclined to take up the point raised by Mr Cable. There is also the criticism that the decision was taken during the recess - both quite unrealistic. Before attempting

50A

⑥ Blaney  
Barenhopen  
Sept 24

⑦ P.R.O. under draft (enc)  
Oct 3 Sept

Sept. P.T. Bloomfield  
East Willshire  
Dir. Labour Party  
from Sept 2  
Nov 10

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Minutes.

51

attempting to draft we should  
be grateful to know whether  
the Private Secs. think we  
should reply at all. ~~the~~  
~~disturbance~~ the letter is  
unfriendly and off the rails  
~~but~~ the ~~case~~ case is now  
dead - Perhaps it would  
be better to let the matter  
drop.

Private Sec.

Mrs. Seim  
Oct. 29

On reflection I think we  
should send a reply about  
this. Would you please submit  
draft from S/S?

P. H. Kinn  
30/10.

Easton Dept.

Draft submitted herewith

*[Signature]*  
(J. E. C. B. H. K.)

Dt authorized

JB NOV. 5

Mrs. Seim  
NOV. 3

J. P. P. P. I. Bloomfield.

East Wiltshire Labour Party

30/11 *[Signature]*  
11/12

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FO 371/61827



2

53

you are just as bad as the Tories, even the Russians distrust you.

Fascism is still allowed, and I don't doubt that immediately you fail (that is the Labour Government) the Jews in Great Britain will become the scapegoat, in fact I am fully prepared to see Concentration Camps set up in a matter of a short number of years.

When I last wrote to you I stated facts, One was the growth of Fascism and the other your attitude on the Palestine

3/ question, you ignore true  
 opinion, because it comes  
 from an ordinary citizen.  
 You can be assured  
 that in the next election  
 my vote and the ones  
 that I will be able to  
 influence will not be  
 cast for a Party that  
 has truly failed the people.  
 I invite you to Ridley  
 Road to see how British  
 Police Keep Law and Order,  
 with Truncheons and Police  
 on mounted Horseback riding  
 into crowds that cry  
 "Down with Fascism" you  
 will feel proud of your policy.

5x

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HP/ This letter can easily  
be torn up, but can it  
be answered first?

In disgust.

Offical

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Reference: <b>FO</b> 371/61827					

56

11, Chadwell Street  
London

E. C. I.

INDEXED

Mr Ernest Bevin

House of Commons.

Dear Sir,

Before resting this night

I always an urge to write to you.

To have consented to have sent these persecuted & driven Jews back to the country where they were tortured beyond endurance must be a blot on any good name. -

- Many of these victims are nervous & psychological wrecks, & this will break

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		1		2	

Reference: **FO 371/61827**

Kington Langley, 57  
near Chippenham,  
Wilts.

Ernest Bevin, Esq., M.P.

Sept. 13th -

Dear Sir,

Dear Sir, I am aware that it will not be yourself but a Secretary who will open this letter, and I cannot hope that you will read it or, better still, that you have read the horrified comments in the "New Statesman", the "News Chronicle etc." on your dastardly crime in deporting the "Exodus Jews" to Germany. Till the eleventh hour I never believed that this country, & least of all a Labour Government, could actually carry out such a deed, & believed it to be a cruel kind of bluff. Not since the internment of aliens by the Chamberlain Government in 1940 have I felt so ashamed of being British. We all know the "difficulties" (they were inevitable after the White Paper of 1939) but if they were a thousand times greater they could not justify the refined torture you have inflicted on these unhappy people. If you have not the imagination to realise what it means for a Jew to be forced back to the country where from 1933 on he and all he loved were subjected to continually increasing mental and physical persecution from the very people who lined the Hamburg quay last week (only such would be there) you are the last person to hold a position of responsibility. If you do realise it, your crime is a thousandfold worse. Yours faithfully  
Heather Tanner.

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		1		2	

Reference: **EO** 371 / 61827

Sunday

The Studio



SEP 25 1964

56

7<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1947.

Chadwell Street  
London

**E. e. I.**

To  
The Foreign Secretary  
Mr Ernest Bevin

INDEXED

*W. A. R. G.*

House of Commons.

Dear Sir,

Before resting this night

I always an urge to write to you.

To have consented to have sent these persecuted & driven Jews back to the country where they were tortured beyond endurance must be a blot on any good name. -

- Many of these victims are nervous & psychological wrecks, & this will break

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					6
				2	

Reference:

**FO** 371 / 61827

5617

them utterly. - This act is one  
of the cruellest in history.

I do hope that this  
letter will reach your hand  
& that you will meditate  
upon its purport.

I voted for you, expecting  
democratic outlook & socialist  
policy. - I am disappointed.

I remain

Yours truly

(Miss) Emma Lewis

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1	2	3	4	5	6
Reference: <b>FO</b> 371/61827					

near Chippenham,  
Wilts

Ernest Bevin, Esq., M.P.

Sept. 13th.

Dear Sir,

dear Sir, I am aware that it will not be yourself but a secretary who will open this letter, and I cannot hope that you will read it or, better still, that you have read the horrified comments in the "New Statesman", the "News Chronicle etc." on your dastardly crime in deporting the "Excluded Jews" to Germany. Till the eleventh hour I never believed that this country, & least of all a Labour Government, could actually carry out such a deed, & believed it to be a cruel kind of bluff. Not since the internment of aliens by the Chamberlain Government in 1940 have I felt so ashamed of being British. We all know the "difficulties" (they were inevitable after the White Paper of 1939) but if they were a thousand times greater they could not justify the refined torture you have inflicted on these unhappy people. If you have not the imagination to realise what it means for a Jew to be forced back to the country where from 1933 on he and all he loved were subjected to continuously increasing mental and physical persecution from the very people who lined the Hamburg quay last week (only such would be there) you are the last person to hold a position of responsibility. If you do realise it, your crime is a thousandfold worse. Yours faithfully  
Heather Tanner

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### Reference:

FO

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BOWES PARK  
WOMEN'S CO-OPERATIVE GUILD.

58

INDEXED

99 Berkeley Gdns

N 13

14 SEP 1947

Mr. [unclear]

Sept 12 '47

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Dear Sir

The members of the above organisation wish to register their protest against Jewish immigrants being sent to Germany against their will. We are shocked to read in the Press, numbers of these unhappy people were taken from the Hamburg docks, in German black maras, with German Police Cars escorting them. We are dismayed that our own Government should inflict this further humiliation on the Jewish people, in a country, where so recently, persecution of such terrible character has been practised against the Jewish race. Surely such treatment can only increase the difficulties of the Jewish problem.

Yours faithfully

Ms. Smith. Hon. Sec.

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FO 371/61827

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58A E

Reference.....

Letter dated Sept 8, 1947, addressed to the  
S. of S. by Mevrouw A van Kisteven of  
Zoutmanck  
Zoutmanck 26, Noordwijk 3. Zee, Holland.

Precis

18 SEP 1947

She has learnt from the Dutch  
newspapers of the three shiploads of Jews  
being taken by the British to Germany. She  
thinks it scandalous that they should  
be taken to Belsen which has such  
shocking memories for them. Is this  
a less cruelty than those of the days of  
Hitler? She hopes that they will be  
moved as quickly as possible out of that  
terrible place.

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54  
Noordwyk Zee 8 Sept 1947.  
Aan Tijne Excellentie Mr. Berin  
en zijn mederegering te Londen.  
Zeer geachte Heer.

Tot mijn groot leed roeken en  
ergeris tevens, heb ik kennes genomen  
van een bericht in een onzer dag-  
blonden, van het weervoeren van  
Jodenmenschen met drie Engelsche  
schepen naar Duitschland. Ik  
vraag mij af, hoe is het in de  
wereld van God mogelijk, om die  
arme stakkers daarheen te voeren  
naar het verbanningoord Bergen  
Belzen, dat voor Jan Zulke vreselijke  
herviezingen wakker roept. Is dit  
een minder gruwelsteek, dan in de  
dagen van Adolf Hitler en zijn  
medewerkers? Ik dacht Excellentie,  
dat uw land een eerste plaats innam  
in de kleine rij der Christ. Naties  
maar dit is voor mij een beeld van  
schrijfel tegenstelling. Ik smeek U,  
en ik hoop dat de gansche Christen  
heid in deze wereld hier mee  
in zal stemmen, wil hen zoo  
spoedig mogelijk terugvoeren uit  
dat vreselijk oord. Het zijn toch ook  
onze broeders? Het beleeft groeten  
en dank uwer inzage voor deze  
spijfel woorden, teken ik

Hoogachtend

Her: de v. van Kesteren  
Zoutmarkt 26 Noorderijk Zee (Holland)

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		1		2	

Reference: **FO 371/61827**

10, DOWNING STREET, S.W.1

INDEXED

PRIVATE SECRETARY

Foreign Office

The attached communication addressed to the Prime Minister is transmitted to you to be dealt with in whatever manner is considered appropriate by the Department concerned. ~~It refers to previous correspondence which was forwarded to you on~~

1. No acknowledgment has been sent from here.

2. ~~A plain acknowledgment has been sent from here, adding that the communication has been forwarded to your Department.~~

3. ~~A copy of the acknowledgment which has been sent from here is attached~~

Date

16/9/67.

JMA

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

61

F.O.

12<sup>th</sup> of September 1947.

Copenhagen, Denmark.

George Lindegård

46, Funkiavej.

Copenhagen S.

INDEXED

To Prime-Minister Attlee.

10, Downing Street.

London.

I write to you because I cannot help getting angry seeing how you are treating the Exodus-Jews. Have not these last bitter years, full of pain, starvation and terror taught you to fight the evil for the sake of Justice??? And have you not promised the Jews of Germany, Poland, Czech-Slovakia, Austria a. s. o. a fatherland of their own? These men, women, and children have suffered endless pain under the yoke of Nazism, and they need a place where - during the peace - they will be able to reestablish their conditions of existence. This place may be palestine or it may <sup>be</sup> somewhere <sup>else</sup> in the world, but it is not Germany, at any rate. This affair with the EXODUS- Jews is one of the greatest mistakes England has ever made. We are frightened to see how one of the most modern culture- nations has not got rid of the old hate to Jews, yet

  
 George Lindegård.

Denmark.

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Registry  
No. E8626/48/31  
J.E.C.

+ 0 c

Draft.

To  
B. Rind  
Emma Lewis  
Heather Turner  
Bower Park W.C.G.

for signature  
by Mr. Gable

Sir  
Madam,

I am directed by Mr.  
Secretary Benin to refer to  
your letter of the — September  
~~in which~~ protested about the  
decision of H.M.G. to send to  
the British Zone of Germany  
the Jewish illegal immigrants  
who, having been returned  
to their place of embarkation  
in the South of France, refused  
to land there.

2. You may find that  
the following factual account of  
the events which led up to  
this decision will assist you to see  
this ~~matter~~ it in its true perspective.

[Here insert from (A) to (B)  
of attached standard reply]

*[Signature]*  
23/4

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

1	2	3	4	5	6

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~~2nd September, 1947.~~

# Aide - mémoire

### Reference:

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FO 371 61827

4. The case of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD represented a particularly flagrant example of the activities of those responsible for organising the Jewish illegal immigration traffic. As you will be aware, His Majesty's Government and the Government of Palestine have for some time been gravely embarrassed in their exercise of the Palestine Mandate and in the maintenance of peace and internal security in Palestine by this Jewish illegal immigrant traffic. They are bound to enforce the present immigration quota of 1,500 a month for

**/Jews**

63A

Jews and they would have no justification, in the present interim period before the United Nations make a recommendation regarding the future of Palestine, for altering this quota. Immigration policy is of cardinal importance to the Palestine problem and all concerned should await the decision of the United Nations in this regard. Nevertheless, the organisers of the illegal immigrant traffic are at present trying to exceed the quota with the object of upsetting the balance of population in the country, and are thereby aggravating an already tense and delicate situation which has led to bloodshed between Arabs and Jews.

6.5. In view of the exceptional size of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD's contingent and of the illicit manner in which they left France, His Majesty's Government had no alternative but to arrange for the return of the illegal immigrants to their country of embarkation, France. It had become evident that the policy of sending illegal immigrants to camps in Cyprus, where they qualify for inclusion in the legal immigration quota to Palestine, had only served to encourage the stream of illegal immigrants which has for months been flowing from Eastern Europe via countries with a Mediterranean seaboard. It is noteworthy that a large part of this stream consists, not of refugees, but of Jews who have been encouraged by the organisers of the traffic to leave their homes in Eastern Europe. The organisers select the immigrants with little regard to humanitarian considerations. The older people, perhaps with relatives in Palestine, who would qualify on those grounds are regularly passed over in favour of young men and women and expectant mothers (the latter most unsuited to face the appalling conditions of overcrowding in which they are sent to Palestine). Parents are encouraged to send their children on the understanding that they are to be legal immigrants. A case has just arisen where a number of Hungarian parents have asked to have back their children from amongst the

/PRESIDENT

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1	1	2	2	2	2

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FO

2187

7. There has been much criticism of the decision to send these Jews to Germany. For the reasons ~~I have~~ given above, no alternative destination was available. It should be remembered, moreover, that this territory is administered by His Majesty's Government and that the illegal immigrants will be looked after by the British military administration and not by Germans. Moreover, as you will clearly see, there was absolutely no need for them to go to Germany at all. They have spent three weeks waiting off a French port with every facility ~~of~~ and

/encouragement

66A

encouragement to go ashore, both from the French and British side. They, and those who inspire them, have chosen instead to make a political point of refusing to land, thereby causing His Majesty's Government to send them to a destination which is unwelcome to everyone concerned. It is, moreover, the hope of His Majesty's Government that ~~after their arrival in Hamburg~~ it will be possible for the illegal immigrants to pass through Germany into France.

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1				2	

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61827

B. Rind Esq.,  
2, Hurstolene Gardens,  
Amhurst Park,  
N.15.

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	1			2	

Reference: **FO 371/1827**



66

It is noteworthy that a large part of this stream consists, not of refugees, but of Jews who have been encouraged by the organisers of the traffic to leave their homes in Eastern Europe. The organisers select the immigrants with little regard to humanitarian considerations. The older people, perhaps with relatives in Palestine, who would qualify on those grounds are regularly passed over in favour of young men and women and expectant mothers (the latter most unsuited to face the appalling conditions of overcrowding in which they are sent to Palestine). Parents are encouraged to send their children on the understanding that they are to be legal immigrants. A case has just arisen where a number of Hungarian parents have asked to have back their children from amongst the President Warfield party when it arrives in the British Zone; they were misled by the organisers of the traffic to think that their children were to be admitted on the legal quota.

6. To revert to the events following the return of the 4,500 illegal immigrants to France. The British transports were left at Port de Bouc for three weeks in the hope that their passengers would accept the French offer of hospitality and disembark in France. When it became clear that the illegal immigrants would not agree to land and that the French Government would not constrain them to do so, it was necessary to find a destination for them under British jurisdiction. In the light of the general situation in regard to the illegal immigrant traffic which I have briefly explained above, His Majesty's Government were quite clear that it would be undesirable to send the illegal immigrants back to Cyprus. They considered a number of destinations in British Colonial territory but in no case was it possible to arrange adequate accommodation at short notice for such a large number of people. It was therefore reluctantly decided to send the illegal immigrants temporarily to the British Zone of Germany, the only place where accommodation could be provided at short notice, and to continue to press the French Government to receive them back through the British Zone.

7. There has been much criticism of the decision to send these Jews to Germany. For the reasons given above, no alternative destination was available. It should be remembered, moreover, that this territory is administered by His Majesty's Government and that the illegal immigrants will be looked after by the British military administration and not by Germans. Moreover, as you will clearly see, there was absolutely no need for them to go to Germany at all. They have spent three weeks waiting off a French port with every facility and encouragement to go ashore, both from the

French

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Reference:

**FO 371 1827**

7. There has been much criticism of the decision to send these Jews to Germany. For the reasons given above, no alternative destination was available. It should be remembered, moreover, that this territory is administered by his Majesty's Government and that the illegal immigrants will be looked after by the British military administration and not by Germans. Moreover, as you will clearly see, there was absolutely no need for them to go to Germany at all. They have spent three weeks waiting off a French port with every facility and encouragement to go ashore, both from the

## French

66A

French and British side. They, and those who inspire them, have chosen instead to make a political point of refusing to land, thereby causing His Majesty's Government to send them to a destination which is unwelcome to everyone concerned. It is, moreover, the hope of His Majesty's Government that it will now be possible for the illegal immigrants to pass through Germany into France.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
(Sgd) B.A.B. Butow.

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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S.W.1.

23rd September, 1947.

Madam,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to refer to your letter of the 7th September about the decision of His Majesty's Government to send to the British Zone of Germany the Jewish illegal immigrants who, having been returned to their place of embarkation in the South of France, refused to land there.

2. You may find that the following actual account of the events which led up to this decision will assist you to see it in its true perspective.

3. On the 18th July 4,554 Jews were intercepted on board the s.s. President Warfield in an attempt to enter Palestine illegally. They had left France with forged Colombian visas of destination, in contravention of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea and Load Lines. This ship of under 2,000 tons was far too small to carry anything like 4,500 people in safety, let alone in proper conditions of sanitation. The French authorities had instructed the ship not to leave, but she cut her hawsers.

4. The case of the President Warfield represented a particularly flagrant example of the activities of those responsible for organising the Jewish illegal immigration traffic. As you will be aware, His Majesty's Government and the Government of Palestine have for some time been gravely embarrassed in their exercise of the Palestine Mandate and in the maintenance of peace and internal security in Palestine by this Jewish illegal immigrant traffic. They are bound to enforce the present immigration quota of 1,500 a month for Jews and they would have no justification, in the present interim period before the United Nations make a recommendation regarding the future of Palestine, for altering this quota. Immigration policy is of cardinal importance to the Palestine problem and all concerned should await the decision of the United Nations in this regard. Nevertheless, the organisers of the illegal immigrant traffic are at present trying to exceed the quota with the object of upsetting the balance of population in the country, and are thereby aggravating an already tense and delicate situation which has led to bloodshed between Arabs and Jews.

5. In view of the exceptional size of the President Warfield's contingent and of the illicit manner in which they left France, His Majesty's Government had no alternative but to arrange for the return of the illegal immigrants to their country of embarkation, France. It had become evident that the policy of sending illegal immigrants to camps in Cyprus, where they qualify for inclusion in the legal immigration quota to Palestine, had only served to encourage the stream of illegal immigrants which has for months been flowing from Eastern Europe via countries with a Mediterranean seaboard.

It

Miss Fruma Lewis,  
The Studio,  
11, Chadwell Street,  
E.C.1.

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FO 371/61827

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It is noteworthy that a large part of this stream consists, not of refugees, but of Jews who have been encouraged by the organisers of the traffic to leave their homes in Eastern Europe. The organisers select the immigrants with little regard to humanitarian consideration. The older people, perhaps with relatives in Palestine, who would qualify on those grounds are regularly passed over in favour of young men and women and expectant mothers (the latter most unsuited to face the appalling conditions of overcrowding in which they are sent to Palestine). Parents are encouraged to send their children on the understanding that they are to be legal immigrants. A case has just arisen where a number of Hungarian parents have asked to have back their children from amongst the President Warfield party when it arrives in the British Zone; they were misled by the organisers of the traffic to think that their children were to be admitted on the legal quota.

6. To revert to the events following the return of the 4,500 illegal immigrants to France. The British transports were left at Port de Bouc for three weeks in the hope that their passengers would accept the French offer of hospitality and disembark in France. When it became clear that the illegal immigrants would not agree to land and that the French Government would not constrain them to do so, it was necessary to find a destination for them under British jurisdiction. In the light of the general situation in regard to the illegal immigrant traffic which I have briefly explained above, His Majesty's Government were quite clear that it would be undesirable to send the illegal immigrants back to Cyprus. They considered a number of destinations in British Colonial territory but in no case was it possible to arrange adequate accommodation at short notice for such a large number of people. It was therefore reluctantly decided to send the illegal immigrants temporarily to the British Zone of Germany, the only place where accommodation could be provided at short notice, and to continue to press the French Government to receive them back through the British Zone.

7. There has been much criticism of the decision to send these Jews to Germany. For the reasons given above, no alternative destination was available. It should be remembered, moreover, that this territory is administered by His Majesty's Government and that the illegal immigrants will be looked after by the British military administration and not by Germans. Moreover, as you will clearly see, there was absolutely no need for them to go to Germany at all. They have spent three weeks waiting off a French port with every facility and encouragement to go ashore, both

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from the French and British side. They, and those who inspire them, have chosen instead to make a political point of refusing to land, thereby causing His Majesty's Government to send them to a destination which is unwelcome to everyone concerned. It is, moreover, the hope of His Majesty's Government that it will now be possible for the illegal immigrants to pass through Germany into France.

I am,  
Madam,  
Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) BATS Bullows

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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00-112

23rd September, 1947.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to refer to your letter of the 13th September about the decision of His Majesty's Government to send to the British Zone of Germany the Jewish illegal immigrants who, having been returned to their place of embarkation in the South of France, refused to land there.

3. On the 18th July 4,554 Jews were intercepted on board the s.s. President Warfield in an attempt to enter Palestine illegally. They had left France with forged Colombian visas of destination, in contravention of the International Conventions for the Safety of Life at Sea and Load Lines. This ship of under 2,000 tons was far too small to carry anything like 4,500 people in safety, let alone in proper conditions of sanitation. The French authorities had instructed the ship not to leave, but she cut her hawsers.

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It

Miss Heather Tanner,  
Old Chapel Field,  
Kington Langley,  
Near Chippenham,  
Wiltshire.

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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I am,  
Madam,  
Your obedient Servant.

ant, (Sqd) BAB Burrows

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Reference:

**FQ** 37 / 61827



S.W.1.

Madam.

2. You may find that the following actual account of the events which led up to this decision will assist you to see it in its true perspective.

4. The case of the President Warfield represented a particularly flagrant example of the activities of those responsible for organising the Jewish illegal immigration traffic. As you will be aware, His Majesty's Government and the Government of Palestine have for some time been gravely embarrassed in their exercise of the Palestine Mandate and in the maintenance of peace and internal security in Palestine by this Jewish illegal immigrant traffic. They are bound to enforce the present immigration quota of 1,500 a month for Jews and they would have no justification, in the present interim period before the United Nations make a recommendation regarding the future of Palestine, for altering this quota. Immigration policy is of cardinal importance to the Palestine problem and all concerned should await the decision of the United Nations in this regard. Nevertheless, the organisers of the illegal immigrant traffic are at present trying to exceed the quota with the object of upsetting the balance of population in the country, and are thereby aggravating an already tense and delicate situation which has led to bloodshed between Arabs and Jews.

**It**

Miss M. Smith,  
Bowes Park  
Women's Co-operative Guild,  
99, Berkshire Gardens,  
N. 13.

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 Reference: **FO 37** **1827**  
 1827



I am,  
Madam,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Sgd) BAR Bulsons

I am,  
Madam,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Sgnd) B A B Bulhons

Reference: **FO**  
37-1827



73

Registry No. E8626/48/31. FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

23 Sept

Dear Chancery,  
*with reference to our letter E 8057/48/31 of the 9 Sept,* We enclose a copy of a telegram letter

addressed to M. Benin

by MEOROW. A VAN KISTEVEN

of NOORDWYK. J. ZEE,

Please send a suitable acknowledgment if you think fit.

Yours ever,  
 Eastern Department.

*[Signature]*  
 18/9

*Chancery  
 Royal.*

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Reference:

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OUT FILE

74

(E 8626/48/31)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

23rd September,  
1947.

Dear Chancery,

With reference to our letter  
E 8057/48/31 of the 9th September  
we enclose a copy of a letter  
addressed to Mr. Bevin by Meorow  
A. Van Kisteven of Noorowyk, Z. Zee.

Please send a suitable  
acknowledgment if you think fit.

Yours ever,  
EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
The Hague.

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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75

Registry No. E 8626/48/31. FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.  
23-19 Sept 1947

Dear Chancery,  
*with reference to our letter E 8057/48/31 of Sept 9*  
We enclose a copy of a ~~telegram~~ letter  
addressed to The Prime Minister  
by George Lindergard  
of Copenhagen

Please send a suitable  
acknowledgment if you think fit.

Yours ever,  
Eastern Department.

*Chancery  
Copenhagen*

*[Signature] 19/8*

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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OUT FILE

76

FOREIGN OFFICE,  
S.W.1.

23rd September,  
1947.

(E 8626/48/31)

Dear Chancery,

With reference to our letter  
E 8057/48/31 of 9th September we  
enclose a copy of a letter  
addressed to the Prime Minister  
by George Lindengard of Copenhagen.

Please send a suitable  
acknowledgment if you think fit.

Yours ever,  
EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Copenhagen.

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PERSONAL



ONTARIO  
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

E 8626 / 48 / 31

INDEXED  
September 8, 1947.

Eastern Dept  
For draft reply please,  
which I think we should  
send through the Commonwealth  
Relations Office.  
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS  
TORONTO  
24/9

Right Honourable Sir:

I am forwarding, for your personal information,  
the enclosed advertisement published by the American Zionist  
Emergency Council in the New York Times of September 6, 1947.

As an ardent Imperialist and one who on occasion  
addresses the public, I feel there must be an appropriate answer  
to these accusations and I am taking the liberty of appealing to  
you, the highest authority, for the answer, or for any comments  
you may care to make at this time.

With cordial regards and the assurance of my great  
respect, believe me, Right Honourable Sir,

Most faithfully yours,

*Chester S. Walters*  
Chester S. Walters

Deputy Provincial Treasurer  
and Controller of Finances.

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, M.P.,  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,  
London, England.

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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## JAPANESE CABINET WARNED ON POWER

Allied Headquarters Stresses  
That the Government Must  
Obey the Elected Diet

By LINDESAY PARROTT

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

TOKYO, Sept. 5.—The Japanese Cabinet was warned today by Allied Headquarters that its authority was subordinate to that of the elected Diet. It was informed that it was not authorized by the new Constitution to legislate by administrative order.

The warning was contained in a public statement issued by the Supreme Command's Government Section, which charged:

"There has been a great deal of loose thinking on this subject and a very dangerous tendency to revert to the traditional Japanese practice."

Such a practice, it was explained, prevailed under the former Constitution when the Government ruled in the name of the Emperor, with Parliament simply approving Cabinet actions.

The statement intimated that the new Japanese Supreme Court eventually may be asked to determine the exact limits of the Cabinet's functions. Meanwhile, however, the Diet's authority is supreme in the legislative field.

Orders at a High Peak

The statement came at a time when the Government's administrative orders probably had reached the highest peak since the surrender. Since its formation last spring, the Cabinet of Socialist Premier Tetsu Katayama through Government orders has increased all prices, attempted to peg wages and now is considering the promulgation of the highly controversial anti-trust law, affecting all large companies in Japan through a Cabinet ordinance without reference to Parliament.

Meanwhile the constitutionally all-powerful Diet has been virtually inactive since its session opened May 20 because the executive branch did not present any important legislation. In three and one-half months only seventeen Government-sponsored bills—mostly routine measures—have been passed, and only six have become effective.

Private members, apparently unable to grasp the opportunity under the new Constitution to legislate without Government consent, presented only eleven measures for consideration, of which only two were enacted.

The Supreme Command's warning, handed to the Japanese and Allied press at a conference conducted by A. R. Hussey Jr., special assistant to the Chief of the Government Section, appeared to some observers to be the sharpest of any communication handed to the Socialist-dominated coalition.

After calling attention to Article 41 of the new Japanese Constitution, which provides that the Diet "shall be the highest organ of state power," the statement continued:

"The only body in the Japanese state that can enact formal rules of conduct which affect individual citizens is the Diet. Authority to implement or amplify those rules may be delegated by the Diet but the delegation must be expressed. Without these protections the individual is at the mercy of the Government."

"The Cabinet cannot—and this is a point that must be constantly emphasized—issue any act which limits the freedom or affects the

## South Korea 'War Games' Aimed at Russian Zone

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SEOUL, Korea, Sept. 5.—The metropolitan police have announced plans to hold "war games" in preparation for the defense of South Korea.

According to Chosun Ilbo, right-wing newspaper, twenty thousand policemen under Chang Talk Sang will spend three days practicing for the "annihilation of twenty thousand members of the North Korean army" when "the North Korean army breaks through at Kaesang and Pajoo," towns within the United States occupation zone near the Russian zone.

## BRITAIN REJECTS NOTE BY SOVIET ON GERMANY

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LONDON, Sept. 5.—Great Britain has rejected the Soviet Government's protest against the recent three-power talks on raising the level of industry in the joint Anglo-American zone of Germany, the Foreign Office announced tonight.

As did the United States, Britain pointed out in a note handed to the Soviet Ambassador here yesterday that the level of industrial productivity for Germany as a whole was not discussed, nor was the "establishment of any special regime for the industrial region of the Ruhr," according to the Foreign Office statement.

The British note appears to have been less firmly worded than that of the United States, but the main points were the same.

Britain "recognized that such problems as the establishment of a level of industry for Germany as a whole can only be solved with the agreement of the four powers occupying Germany," she pointed out plainly, however, that "agreement with regard to such a question can only be reached after the attainment of the economic unity of Germany, which it is hoped to achieve at the next meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers."

In the absence of such economic unity, the note said, the British "must take effective interim action in the economic field to administer their zone of Germany."

Recalling that the French Government had requested the opportunity of expressing its views on the "two problems" discussed, the British note concluded that it was for this purpose that the recent conversations were held in London.

## BAPTISTS SEE POPE, BACK TRUMAN VIEW

ROME, Sept. 5 (AP).—Four American Baptist clergymen were received by Pope Pius XII today and reported that they had upheld in the audience the policies of a fellow Baptist, President Truman.

Mr. Truman was criticized last week by another group of Baptist leaders. Their spokesman, Dr. Duke McCall, executive of the Southern Baptist Convention, said the recent exchange of letters between the President and the Pontiff implied that "our Government is an ally of clerical totalitarianism."

Dr. J. Frank Norris of Detroit and Fort Worth, was spokesman for the group received today. He said he read the Pontiff's statement saying:

"The Baptist preachers attacking President Truman in his efforts to stop communism are certainly doing the bidding of Stalin, whether intended or not."

"They talk of Truman living up

## JOINT KOREA BODY IN A NEW DEADLOCK

Commission Unable to Agree  
on Report on Its Inability  
to Reach Accords

By RICHARD J. H. JOHNSTON

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SEOUL, Korea, Sept. 5.—The joint United States-Soviet Commission appeared today unable to agree on the joint report to Washington and Moscow on the deadlock in the commission's negotiations.

Following the first night session since the unsuccessful meetings last year, the American delegation

is reported to be unable to agree on a joint accounting of the previous disagreements.

The commission met yesterday afternoon for more than three hours. Last night the delegates wrangled from 8:30 P. M. until 1 o'clock this morning without substantial agreement on the most minor aspects of the joint report called for by Secretary of State Marshall and Foreign Minister Molotov.

The weary negotiators faced each other wearily across the conference table for several hours this afternoon.

Delegates' Nerves Frayed

That the interminable disputes over the report are fraying the nerves of the delegates was indicated today by the refusal of Major Gen. Albert E. Brown, chief of the American delegation, to see the American correspondents.

Through a public relations spokesman General Brown had nothing to tell the press and, furthermore, he didn't desire to answer questions.

It was not learned what effect the passing of the deadline for the joint report today would have on the talks.

At the Soviet consulate here, headquarters of the Russian delegation, Col. Gen. Tei-ty F. Shtikov, head of the Soviet delegation, was reported sleeping in preparation for further commission discussions.

General Brown's office refused to say whether agreement on the report could be reached.

"When General Brown has something to say, he will let you know," the spokesman said. The basis of the disagreement over the report lies in the Soviet delegation's refusal to accept the American evaluation of the causes for

the deadlock. It is understood that the Soviet delegates demand that the report emphasize the Soviet's position on the difficult question of consultation with Korean political groups. With four-power meetings on this question scheduled for Washington on Monday, two days remain for the conferees here to agree.

The Korean press attempted today to explain why the commission was deadlocked over the report on its deadlock.

"The Joint Commission has wasted considerable time over the deadlock, and this is not good either for the Korean people or for world peace," said a Rightist newspaper.

China Accepts Officially

WASHINGTON, Sept. 5.—China has officially accepted the invitation of the United States to a

four-power conference here looking to a solution of the Korean question, the State Department announced today.

Britain has indicated that she would attend but has not sent an official acceptance. Nothing has been heard from Russia. The invitations were extended late last month. It was proposed that the conversations begin next Monday.

While it does not appear possible for the conference to convene Monday, the State Department was not prepared to say that more than a slight delay was in prospect.

Asked whether a refusal by Russia to attend the conference would cause it to be cancelled, a spokesman for the department said:

"We will cross that bridge when we come to it."

Should the project be abandoned, it appeared that there would be some sentiment in official circles

for referring the problem to the United Nations.

## TASS DENIES PLANE LOSS

Calls Turkish Report of Grounded Craft 'Complete Fabrication'

MOSCOW, Sept. 5 (AP).—The Soviet news agency Tass denied today a report from Istanbul, Turkey, last week that a Soviet plane landed near the Turkish town of Smyrna and that its crew had been taken into custody.

Tass asserted the reports circulated abroad that a Soviet general had been a passenger and the story about the landing were "a complete fabrication completely untrue and without foundation."

The Istanbul item quoted reliable sources having said the pilot claimed he "lost his way" and exhausted his fuel.

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# HITLER'S TRIUMPH

Forty-four hundred human beings are being "persuaded" onto the shores of Germany. They are people who know what it is to endure humiliation, having survived the Nazi murder factories. But this latest degradation is unmatched, for it is inflicted by the democratic world—the same democratic world which fought the greatest of wars to end the oppression of the weak by the strong.

However, all this seems to be beside the point in our enlightened age. These people happen to be Jews who have demonstrated their people's refusal to perish, who have sought a new life in their own homeland—and for Jews that is a crime. In the era of Ernst Bevin it is still a crime for a Jew to live as other men. If he takes steps to achieve freedom for himself and his brother he must be punished. For that the world's oldest Parliament is convened and shocked statesmen express righteous indignation at attempts to save Jewish lives and Jewish spirits—which are, of course, "illegal." Mighty battleships—guardians of the freedom of the democratic seas—go into action. Then the troops and guns and clubs and truncheons.

fuller and better life for all now defiles the very principles which it mouthed to win the support of the voters. It has debased, not only its own party, but the entire people which it rules—for the anti-Semitism which is an inevitable outgrowth of the Bevin policy on Palestine is already gaining a strong foothold in Britain, as witness the recent anti-Jewish riots throughout England.

The callousness of the British Government's behavior towards the EXODUS 1947 refugees, the total disregard of human conscience—as voiced by countless Americans and as expressed by the fine attitude of the French Government—are almost unprecedented. For a parallel one must recall the cynical unconcern of the Nazis when world opinion denounced the subjugation and enslavement of smaller, "inferior" peoples.

The most shocking aspect of this latest British operation is the fact that it is being carried out within a week of the publication of the report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, which recommended the immediate admission into Palestine of 150,000 Jewish refugees and



ly routine measures—have been passed, and only six have become effective.

Private members, apparently unable to grasp the opportunity, under the new Constitution to legislate without Government consent, presented only eleven measures for consideration, of which only two were enacted.

The Supreme Command's warning, handed to the Japanese and Allied press at a conference conducted by A. R. Hussey Jr., special assistant to the Chief of the Government Section, appeared to some observers to be the sharpest of any communication handed to the Socialist-dominated coalition. After calling attention to Article 41 of the new Japanese Constitution, which provides that the Diet "shall be the highest organ of state power," the statement continued:

"The only body in the Japanese state that can enact formal rules of conduct which affect individual citizens is the Diet. Authority to implement or amplify those rules may be delegated by the Diet but the delegation must be expressed. Without these protections the individual is at the mercy of the Government."

"The Cabinet cannot—and this is a point that must be constantly emphasized—issue any act which limits the freedom or affects the property of any individual Japanese unless authorized by the Diet in a manner consistent with the Constitution."

"There is no separate, special field of operation in which the cabinet order. A Cabinet order does Japan irrespective of the Diet. Under the new Constitution the Cabinet cannot legislate by Cabinet order. A Cabinet order does not have the force of law unless the Diet expressly so provides and a Cabinet order can not operate as a substitute for a law."

#### Tokyo Bureaucrats' View

Mr. Hussey told the correspondents that his experience in dealing with governments led him to the belief that there was a serious tendency to revert to the old Japanese system of Government by men instead of by law. He added: "Bureaucrats have expressed to me the opinion that there is no difference in the authority of the Cabinet under the new Constitution and the old Meiji Constitution."

Mr. Hussey explained that the Cabinet might act by administrative order when directed by the Supreme Command to take various emergency steps, such as demilitarization, and the purge of undesirable and others, which never were presented to the Diet. It is the Supreme Command's policy, however, in such instances as the anti-trust law, which is expected to become a permanent part of the Japanese legal structure, to instruct the Cabinet to obtain legal enactment by the Diet. In such instances, Mr. Hussey said, a Cabinet order putting into effect the Supreme Command's general instructions would not be considered satisfactory.

#### CAMELS SMUGGLE FRANCS

Carry \$200,000 Worth From Morocco to Tangier

TANGIER (ONA)—In the last two months about 250,000,000 francs (a little more than \$2,000,000 at the official rate) have been smuggled out of French Morocco into Tangier, according to well-informed sources. Most of the money was smuggled on camelback during dark nights.

However, despite many advantages offered by Tangier for spending or investing cash, the funds did not stay in this international city. They continued their escape to South America, it has been learned.

The origin of the money is difficult to trace. There is no doubt that some of it came from France because there are no curbs on the transfer of capital between the mainland and the North African Protectorate. But many here believe that a good deal of the money belongs to feudal Arab chiefs who are shipping it to help finance pan-Arab propaganda.

ernment had requested the opportunity of expressing its views on the two problems discussed, the British note concluded that it was for this purpose that the recent conversations were held in London.

#### BAPTISTS SEE POPE, BACK TRUMAN VIEW

ROME, Sept. 5 (AP)—Four American Baptist clergymen were received by Pope Pius XII today and reported that they had upheld in the audience the policies of a fellow Baptist, President Truman.

Mr. Truman was criticized last week by another group of Baptist leaders. Their spokesman, Dr. Duke McCall, executive of the Southern Baptist Convention, said the recent exchange of letters between the President and the Pontiff implied that "our Government is an ally of clerical totalitarianism."

Dr. J. Frank Norris of Detroit and Fort Worth, was spokesman for the group received today. He said he read the Pontiff's statement saying:

"The Baptist preachers attacking President Truman in his efforts to stop communism are certainly doing the bidding of Stalin, whether intended or not."

"They talk of Truman lining up with the Pope. But they are lining up with the Communist regime of Moscow."

"The issue for America in the world is not the union of state and church but whether we will have a church or no church, a state or no state, God or no God."

Dr. Norris said that when he had hesitatingly suggested that the other Baptists feared the Pope "would convert Mr. Truman to Catholicism," the Pontiff threw up his hands and laughed.

Other in the group were Dr. Wendell Zimmerman of Kansas City, Dr. Luther Peak of Dallas and Dr. Beauchamp Vick of Detroit.

#### SOVIET SIGNS ACCORD TO SEND POLAND GRAIN

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WARSAW, Sept. 5—The Government announced today the signing of an agreement whereby the Soviet Union will supply Poland with 300,000 tons of grain by the end of the year, with one-third to be delivered by the end of this month.

The agreement calls for the delivery of 180,000 tons of rye, 100,000 tons of wheat and 40,000 tons of barley. This country still will have a deficit of 300,000 tons of grain until next spring.

A Foreign Office spokesman said exports would be made to purchase grain "in any country able to produce it and willing to sell it."

Poland will pay the Soviet Union partly with goods still to be determined and through transit fees payable by the Russians for supplying their zone of Germany.

In announcing the agreement, Minister of Food Włodzimierz Lechowicz said, "We are hopeful that in line with the Harrison report we will receive aid from America to enable us to start the new year with as small a deficit as possible."

His reference to the Harrison report was strange, since it formed the basis of the State Department's decision in July to abandon all plans for Polish relief.

#### Pilot Lands on Flooded Field

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HAMILTON, Bermuda, Sept. 5—After circling Bermuda in a violent thunderstorm that flooded the United States Army's Kindley Airfield to a depth of two feet or more in spots, Capt. Norman Wollcott crash landed a British South American Airways plane this morning without serious injury to any of his fifteen passengers and his crew of five.

You can train for the job you like best, with tax-free pay in the United States Coast Guard. Apply now to your nearest Coast Guard recruiting office.

factories. But this latest degradation is unmatched, for it is inflicted by the democratic world—the same democratic world which fought the greatest of wars to end the oppression of the weak by the strong.

However, all this seems to be beside the point in our enlightened age. These people happen to be Jews who have demonstrated their people's refusal to perish, who have sought a new life in their own homeland—and for Jews that is a crime. In the era of Ernst Bevin it is still a crime for a Jew to live as other men. If he takes steps to achieve freedom for himself and his brother he must be punished. For that the world's oldest Parliament is convened and shocked statesmen express righteous indignation at attempts to save Jewish lives and Jewish spirits—which are, of course, "illegal." Mighty battleships—guardians of the freedom of the democratic seas—go into action. Then the troops and guns and clubs and truncheons.

And on the dockside at Hamburg the ghosts of Hitler, Streicher and Himmler cackle a chorus of Hosannas for the great Empire which is putting these Jews in their place.

But let us not paint a one-sided picture. We are, after all, talking about Englishmen—*fair play and cricket*, don't you know. Is it not a well-known fact (driven home by scores of films) that Englishmen are the best-mannered, softest-spoken, kindest people on earth? To illustrate this point, we give you Exhibit A—the British official in Hamburg, quoted by the *Associated Press* on August 28th, who said that "three degrees of compulsion were available if the Jews refused to leave their ships on arrival (in Hamburg)."

#### "1. Manhandling. 2. Ship's hosepipes.

#### 3. Tear gas."

No lethal weapons, mind you. Everything done in accordance with the highest British standards of humanitarianism. We can already hear some Labor peer in the House of Lords paying tribute to the brave British soldiers and sailors who execute this operation—to their "remarkable patience, forbearance and humanity" in dealing with these "illegal" Jews.

Such is Bevin's Britain today. A Government which rode to power on pledges of the

the anti-Semitism which is an inevitable outgrowth of the Bevin policy on Palestine is already gaining a strong foothold in Britain, as witness the recent anti-Jewish riots throughout England.

The callousness of the British Government's behavior towards the EXODUS 1947 refugees, the total disregard of human conscience—as voiced by countless Americans and as expressed by the fine attitude of the French Government—are almost unprecedented. For a parallel one must recall the cynical unconcern of the Nazis when world opinion denounced the subjugation and enslavement of smaller, "inferior" peoples.

The most shocking aspect of this latest British operation is the fact that it is being carried out within a week of the publication of the report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, which recommended the immediate admission into Palestine of 150,000 Jewish refugees and called for the speedy termination of the present British Mandate over the Holy Land. By behaving as if it were oblivious to the fact that the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine—which, incidentally, was formed at Britain's request—has already published its findings, the British Government undermines the authority and influence of the United Nations. The EXODUS operation is therefore, in a very real sense, a blow, not only against helpless refugees, but also against the international structure upon which we hope to build world peace.

Meanwhile the struggle goes on. The heroic 4400 do not stand alone, but are backed by the unquenchable determination of the Jewish people everywhere in the world to achieve justice. They have the support of millions of Christians, especially in the United States, who take their religion seriously and who understand that there can be no real peace unless justice prevails also for the unfortunate and downtrodden of the earth.

People of the EXODUS! You who set foot on the soil of your homeland for a fleeting moment—you will return, singing and triumphant, the vanguard of the many thousands who will follow to build and be rebuilt in the Jewish State.

## AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL

342 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.



1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO 371 61827

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1947.

## BRITISH PLANS SET TO LAND REFUGEES

Official Says Troops Will Act Only if Jews Reject Bid to Debark at Hamburg

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HAMBURG, Germany, Sept. 5—British Military Government authorities declared today that utmost tact and patience would be employed in attempts to persuade 4,300 Jewish refugees to debark peacefully from three British vessels when they arrive Sunday morning. They expressed the hope that the 1,400 passengers on the Ocean Vigour, the first of the three ships, would be entrained within seven hours after docking.

[Press service dispatches said that the British officials had declared that if the passengers resisted being landed, troops would be prepared to use tear gas and water hoses to force them off the ships.]

The refugees are being sent here after having been turned back from Palestine, to which they had set out from southern France in the steamer Exodus 1947, formerly the President Warfield.

Vaughan Berry, British Commissioner for Hamburg, said at an interview that the troops would be kept out of sight until it was ascertained that the refugees would not answer his appeal to land peacefully. He declared that all efforts were being made to assure that the refugees would be placed behind barbed wire quickly and that their stay would be as comfortable as is possible in Germany.

The Jews will be taken to the sites of a former transit camp for Polish displaced persons. H. V. Champion de Crespigny, Commissioner for Schleswig-Holstein, described the litters for the inmates as "poor in appearance but clean and reasonably well willed with straw."

A spokesman for the liberated Jewish community here, however, said the camps' condition was "grimly and could not have been planned to be worse."

Germans are showing an interest in the refugees' fate. It is rumored among them that the Jews' passage was made slow so their food would run out and they would be too weak to resist debarkation.

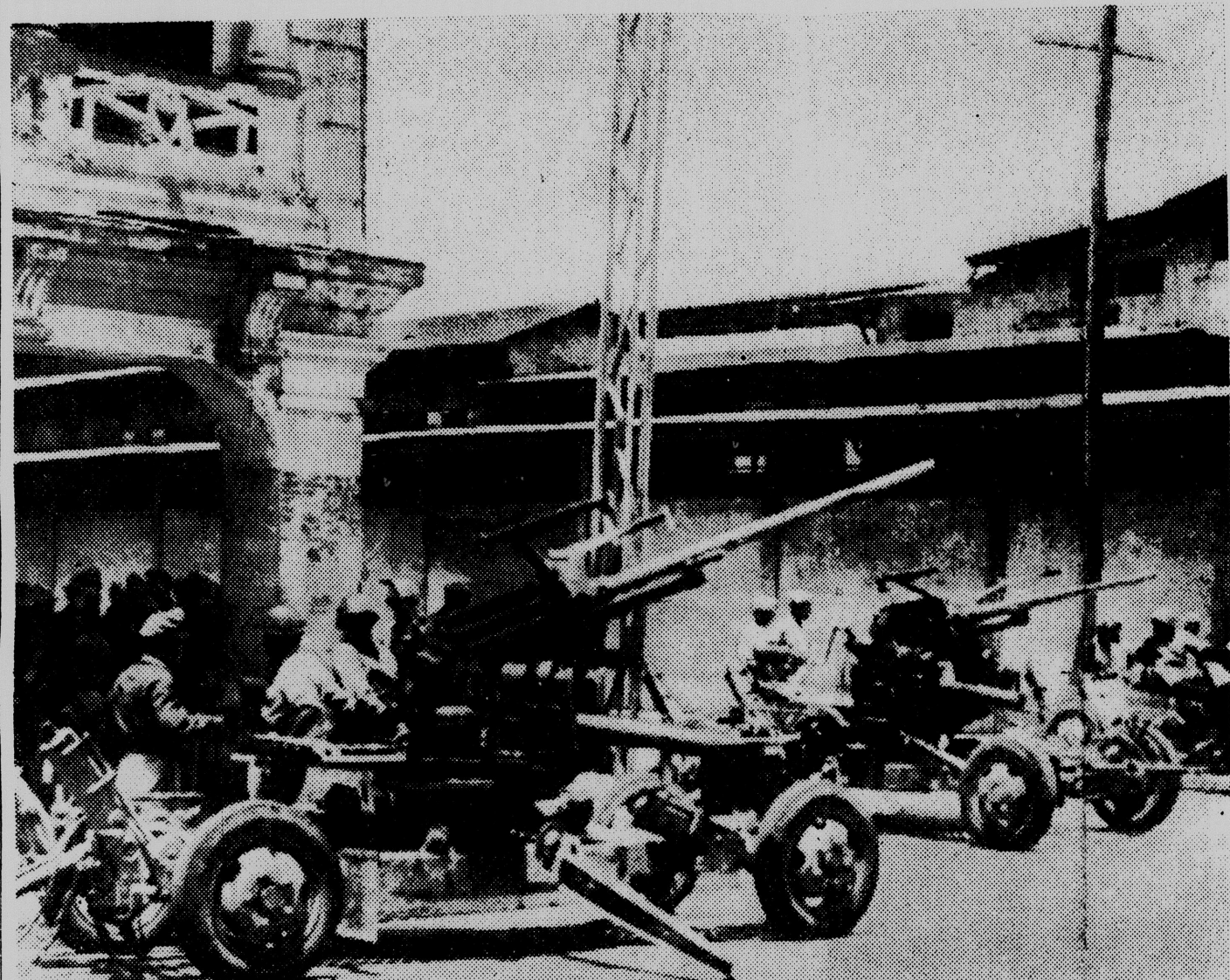
Jewish relief agencies reaffirmed that an "ultimatum" had been issued by the Military Government. A letter made public by the Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the British zone of Germany said that the authorities had given the American Joint Distribution Committee "an ultimatum to the effect that if the committee's help is not immediately promised to the Exodus immigrants there would be far-reaching consequences, including the possible exclusion of the committee from further work in the British zone."

A Military Government official declared that it seemed fair to ask the aid of the Jewish relief unit inasmuch as it had asked the Foreign Office for a grant of \$20,000 [\$80,000] to cover 50 per cent of its work in this zone.

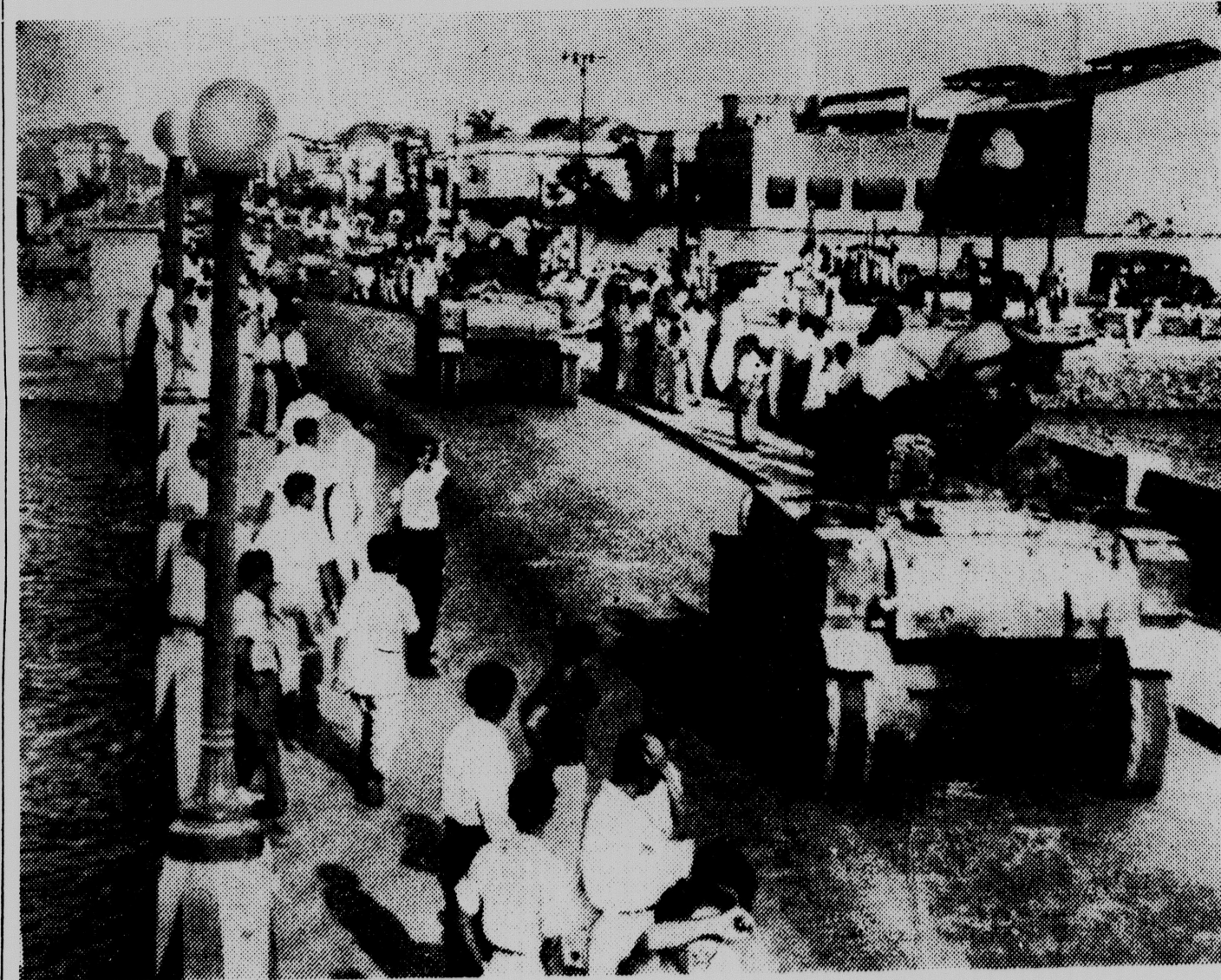
News Men to Be Penned In

HAMBURG, Germany, Sept. 5 (P)—Correspondents reporting the debarkation of the refugees will be kept in two dockside enclosures

## ECUADOR: COUNTER-REVOLUTIONISTS ON GUAYAQUIL STREETS



Troops outside barracks after repudiating 9-day-old regime of Col. Carlos Mancheno



Tanks rumbling into the city as counter-revolution gained

Associated Press Wirephotos

## JEWIS TOLD TO QUIT AS PALESTINE AIDES

Stern Gang Warning Is Taken as Hint of Start of a Civil Disobedience Campaign

By CLIFTON DANIEL  
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## Ramadier Obtains Confidence Vote After He Urges 'Directed Economy'

By KENNETH CAMPBELL

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PARIS, Sept. 5—The Ramadier Government obtained an unimpressive National Assembly confidence vote today and pledged sweeping reforms as a huge but orderly anti-Government demonstration, mostly Communist in-

## 2D BUDAPEST PARTY ASKED TO AID BLOC

Soviet Bids Small Landholders Stay in Coalition—Red Press Threatens Rightists

By JOHN MACCORMAC  
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BUDAPEST, Hungary, Sept. 5—Gen. V. P. Sviridov, Russian chairman of the Allied Control Commission for Hungary, has called in a leader of the Small Landholders party, in addition to the previously announced Socialist head, and has urged him to help keep the four-party coalition bloc in being, it was learned today.

General Sviridov took this step, like every other important action is taken in the Allied Control Commission here, without consulting its United States and British members or even notifying them of his move.

Despite this Russian intervention, the revolt in the ranks of the Small Landholders, like that of the Socialists, still is unresolved. The Communist newspapers are beginning to threaten the Right Wing of the Small Landholders party. The Szabat Nep, for instance, accuses them of planning to cooperate with the Independence party, led by Zoltan Pfeiffer, which it says "would be cooperation with fascism," and cries "down with Rightist putsch."

The paper says that the workers of Budapest will demonstrate tomorrow against these Rightist attempts, and warns the Socialists that to disrupt the unity of the workers' parties now would lead to a "Rightist coup d'etat."

Pro-Communist Deputy Premier Arpad Szakasitz, general secretary of the Socialists, made a statement in one of the party organs today to the effect that he was head of the party since he had been appointed by the party congress and could be removed only by it. He said that the policy as well as the leadership of the party had been fixed by the congress, especially as regards cooperation with the Soviet Union, and that neither had changed. His statement lent even more importance to next Monday's meeting of the party congress.

It is generally expected, however, that in the end both the Socialists and the small landholders will capitulate and remain in the coalition. But the possibility of the departure of the Right Wing Small Landholders and their fusion with the Pfeiffer party is not excluded. It also is possible that Lajos Dinnyes of the Small Landholder party will retain the premiership.

What were hailed at first as the final election figures were published today, but it was stated later that they were not completely definitive.

Meanwhile, the Independence party asked why the preliminary figures for Budapest, as broadcast by the Hungarian radio, showed Mr. Pfeiffer with 237,000 votes, whereas these latest figures credited him with only 210,000.

Complaints about election malpractices continue to roll in. This correspondent talked today with an adherent of the Small Landholders faction led by Rev. Istvan Balogh, who had just been released by the political police after five days' detention. The work-ers, he overalls were torn almost in two and spattered with stains of

## FOUR JOIN CABINET IN TURKISH SHIFT

Premier Threatens to Resign Over Confidence Vote—New Crisis Believed in Offing

ANKARA, Turkey, Sept. 5 (P)—Four Ministers moved into the Cabinet of Premier Recep Peker today in a shake-up of the Turkish Government after a stormy dispute in which Mr. Peker threatened to resign.

President Ismet Inonu announced appointment of the new Ministers late this afternoon without comment, but behind the shake-up were two days of often violent discussion. It had been reported yesterday that Mr. Peker had named five new Ministers.

Mr. Peker's threat to resign reportedly came when Republican People's party members of the National Assembly asked him why he should alter his Cabinet only a few days after receiving a sweeping vote of confidence.

"If I have lost the confidence of this group, I am resigning," Premier Peker reportedly declared, striding from the room. Members of the party ran after him and persuaded him to return.

The new ministers are: Shevket Edalan, replacing Faik Kurtoglu as Minister of Agriculture.

Munir Gole, replacing Sukru Sokmensuer as Minister of the Interior.

Munir Bilsel, replacing Gen. Cemil Cahit Toydemir as Minister of National Defense.

Cavit Ekin, replacing Tausin Bekir Balta as Minister of Economy.

In addition, Finance Minister Nazmi Kishmir is to act temporarily also as Minister of Commerce, replacing Atif Inan.

### Further Shake-Up Hinted

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ISTANBUL, Turkey, Sept. 4 (Delayed)—The internal political life of Turkey entered a new phase today following the official announcement of the Cabinet shake-up.

The change, affecting five out of the fourteen Cabinet members, came in the wake of the vote of confidence obtained last week by the Government within its own party, in which there were thirty-five votes against the regime.

The reshuffle, which also was a result of the nation-wide discontent, especially toward the Government's internal and economic policies, was commented upon as "an indication that the hard-pressed Cabinet soon will resign entirely."

The Republican spokesman in Ankara stated that the shake-up was "to strengthen" the Government's position before the forthcoming Republican General Congress. At that time, President Inonu and the moderate Republicans are expected to settle the political crisis that has been growing daily, to the detriment of the country's progress.

In a declaration coinciding with the Cabinet changes the Opposition claimed that none of the promised democratic and economic reforms had been put into practice and that all the Government's efforts were aimed to keep it in power.

### Open Ballot Under Fire

The Democrats hold—and many Republicans agreed—that had the

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## SATURDAY CHECK LIST

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These delicious Altman delicacies now at a great saving! Assortment of seven different cookies. 2 lb. tin was 1.79,

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pouches, vanities, and box styles in a wonderful collection . . . exciting fall-into-winter silhouettes. Black, brown, wine or green. Including 20% Federal tax, 18.00

handbags, main floor

### SHEER DRESS WOOLENS

by-the-yard from a complete range of textures in new fall colors . . . from fine mills in America and Europe. You'll want many, many yards for your fall wardrobe.

yard, 3.95 to 8.95

Altman fashions-by-the-yard, fifth floor

### HARRIS TWEED COATS

handsome textured, double-breasted coat with half-belt. In blue and wine herringbone, tan and blue herringbone, blue or green heather. Sizes 10 to 18. 49.95

misses' coats, third floor



Jewish community here, however, said the camps' condition was "grimly and could not have been planned to be worse."

Germans are showing an interest in the refugees' fate. It is rumored among them that the Jews' passage was made slow so their food would run out and they would be too weak to resist debarkation.

Jewish relief agencies reaffirmed that an "ultimatum" had been issued by the Military Government. A letter made public by the Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the British zone of Germany said that the authorities had given the American Joint Distribution Committee "an ultimatum to the effect that if the committee's help is not immediately promised to the Exodist immigrants there would be far-reaching consequences, including the possible exclusion of the committee from further work in the British zone."

A Military Government official declared that it seemed fair to ask the aid of the Jewish relief unit inasmuch as it had asked the Foreign Office for a grant of £20,000 [\$80,000] to cover 50 per cent of its work in this zone.

#### News Men to Be Penned In

HAMBURG, Germany, Sept. 5 (P)—Correspondents reporting the debarkation of the refugees will be kept in two dockside enclosures and their movements will be restricted, it was announced officially tonight.

Public relations officials told nearly two hundred reporters and photographers that they would not be allowed aboard the ships until the passengers had debarked.

Mr. Berry said the official view was that "if any people on board wanted to make trouble, nothing would encourage them more than the presence of large numbers of the press, particularly camera men."

Photographers will not be permitted to use flash bulbs and neither reporters nor photographers will be permitted to leave the enclosure except to return to cable offices in cars provided by the Military Government.

#### Children Reported Abducted

LONDON, Sept. 5—The Foreign Office said today that 200 Jewish children might have been kidnapped in Hungary and placed among the refugees who were nearing Hamburg.

According to a Foreign Office spokesman, such children are victims of "strikingly inhuman" organizations that are sending Jewish children from Hungary to Palestine.

The matter was brought to the Foreign Office's attention when parents, appealed to British authorities in Budapest for the repatriation of twelve boys and one girl, who they believed had been sent to Palestine on the Exodus 1947.

The Foreign Office said that the parents had informed the authorities in Budapest that 200 kidnapped children between 12 and 14 had been sent from Hungary to Bavaria in the United States occupation zone of Germany to await passage to Palestine.

Several organizations, most of them affiliated with a Marxist Zionist youth organization, are conducting the kidnappings, according to the Foreign Office. Of these, the principal one is Hashomer Hatzair, a spokesman said.

One boy was reported to have left home saying he was going to a summer camp in Germany. His parents learned that he was being held in Germany en route to Palestine. The spokesman said that many of the parents had been in the Belsen concentration camp and others.

Britain has called the attention of Hungarian authorities to the matter, the spokesman said.

#### British Charge Denied

JERUSALEM, Sept. 5 (Reuters)—A Jewish Youth Organization spokesman denied tonight a British Foreign Office suggestion that Jewish children aboard the British transports going to Hamburg had been sent without the knowledge of their parents.



Tanks rumbling into the city as counter-revolution gained

Associated Press Wirephotos

## JEWS TOLD TO QUIT AS PALESTINE AIDES

Stern Gang Warning Is Taken as Hint of Start of a Civil Disobedience Campaign

By CLIFTON DANIEL

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM, Sept. 5 — What may be the first effort by underground organizations to force Palestine's Jewish population into a campaign of civil disobedience against the British administration was reported by the Palestine police today.

For two hours last night, it was stated, two Yemenite Jews, a man and a woman, circulated through Tel Aviv, visiting the homes of eighteen Jewish officials of the Income Tax Department and warning them to resign within ninety-six hours or suffer drastic consequences. The visitors said they represented the Fighters for the Freedom of Israel (the Stern group).

The Stern organization and Irgun Zvai Leumi, another terrorist band, have repeatedly advocated that the population undertake a program of noncooperation and civil disobedience. One of their proposals has been nonpayment of taxes. However, their appeals have elicited no noticeable response.

The dissident underground groups appear to be replenishing their treasuries. Another armed robbery was reported in Tel Aviv, where five youths held up the employees of a jewelry store, swept up \$8,000 worth of diamonds and jewelry and made off under cover of a smoke bomb.

In their propaganda campaign the two dissident underground groups have denounced the proposals of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine for a partition of the Holy Land into Jewish and Arab states. Thus they have defied the decision of the Zionist general council welcoming the inquiry's report.

Haaretz, independent Hebrew newspaper, reminded Zionists that although Dr. Chaim Weizmann had not been re-elected president of the World Zionist Organization last December, his policy had nevertheless been followed and officially confirmed by the general council. The latest plan for partition is virtually the same as the one Dr. Weizmann had presented to the United Nations Committee.

A report from New York that he might lead the Zionist delegation to the United Nations General Assembly was published today along with the suggestion that he might be the first President of the proposed Jewish state.

The Hebrew press was stirred by the release of seven Arabs convicted in the uprising of 1936-39. The newspaper Haboker said the move "looks like a deliberate policy designed to reply subtly to the United Nations' report. The Palestine Post said the government's action might be misunderstood because three Jewish Mayors convicted of no crime were still being held. [According to The Associated Press, high sources said that the Mayors, arrested five weeks ago in what police called a "campaign

## Ramadier Obtains Confidence Vote After He Urges 'Directed Economy'

By KENNETH CAMPBELL

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS, Sept. 5—The Ramadier Government obtained an unanimous National Assembly confidence vote today and pledged sweeping reforms as a huge but orderly anti-Government demonstration, mostly Communist inspired, filled Paris streets.

The Ramadier Government promised to put its financial house in order and enter into European collaboration, apparently with the end in view of making quick United States economic aid possible. In an Assembly speech Premier Paul Ramadier said "that the only road now open is one of a directed economy."

The vote on the Ramadier Government was 292 for and 243 against. Communists headed the attack against the Premier but they and their temporary allies on the right missed by sixty-five votes the number necessary to force him to resign.

The Popular Republicans, largest Assembly group with the exception of the Communists, voted for M. Ramadier. Reports persisted that the Radicals had divided their vote and that about eight Deputies of M. Ramadier's Socialist party also had voted against him.

Much of the present political crisis, now believed safely passed by M. Ramadier at least until the Assembly meets Nov. 13, was caused by the Premier's refusal to follow the mandate given to him by the Socialist Left Wing, which gained control of the party's Executive Committee recently.

Many political observers believe that the crackdown tone of M. Ramadier's speech and the program announced by his party indicated at least some yielding by the Premier to the Left Wing Socialist plan.

After an afternoon of acute uncertainty, during which rumors of the Premier's resignation were freely circulated, the Cabinet, which had met under the protection of the municipal police and the steel-helmeted and rifle-carry-

ing "blackshirts" would be released Monday, along with fifty others taken into custody at the same time.]

#### Poland Trains Fishermen

There are now about 3,000 fishermen in Poland and 103 fish processing factories are in operation, reports the International Transport Workers Federation. Shipyards are building 180 cutters and 190 other fishing boats; 157 cutters and more than 1,300 other fishing boats are in use. Deep sea fisheries employ nineteen trawlers. Several of the trawlers were purchased from Britain and the crews had to be recruited from among Dutchmen and Englishmen, since there is an acute shortage of trained Polish seamen and fishermen. A special school for fishermen has now been opened at Gdynia by the Central Office for Seafarers' Education. The training will last one year and consist of six months' theory and six months' practice in fishing vessels.

ing national police, issued the following communiqué:

"The Cabinet has outlined a program of work that consists of:

"(1) A program of immediate economic action; (2) the beginning of European collaboration; (3) fiscal and budgetary reforms aimed at assuring a stable equilibrium of our resources; (4) administrative reform and a statute for the Army."

Before the confidence vote M. Ramadier made a fighting speech strongly in contrast with the somewhat perfunctory defenses that he had made of his regime in recent Assembly debates. He was loudly applauded by the Center and nearly all of the Right.

"The present crisis is not only one of penury, it is also monetary," M. Ramadier told the Assembly. "We also must declare that while a financial policy is necessary, it cannot be sufficient, and that it will be necessary at the same time for us to follow an economic policy that will overthrow speculation first, which is destructive to our money and has repercussions on public morality."

"There is not another means than that of proposing a directed economy. "We have told the country the truth. The bread ration will not be insured by importations \* \* \* If we do not take prices in hand where this is possible, we will let our currency go as it will and demoralization will gain throughout the country to the point, where our economic structure will risk being overthrown \* \* \*"

The Premier repeated his call for national discipline and said it was uncertain whether it would be necessary to recall the Assembly before mid-November. The final Assembly session and the afternoon's Cabinet meeting were not disturbed by the mass march to the Champs de Mars. The marchers carried signed "I resign, Ramadier!" and "down with those who starve us!" The police said the demonstration was the largest since the war's end.

Lasting friendships are made in the Army. Travel, security and financial independence go hand-in-hand with an enlistment in the new Regular Army. Your nearest Army recruiting station has complete details. There's an Army recruiting station at 39 Whitehall Street.

**Macy's**  
open  
today  
9:45 to 6 p.m.

Macy's-Parkchester open daily 10 to 5:30, Thursdays and Saturdays 10 to 9:30

Macy's-Jamaica open daily 9:30 to 5:45, Friday 10 to 9:30

had been fixed by the congress, especially as regards cooperation with the Soviet Union, and that neither had changed. His statement lent even more importance to next Monday's meeting of the party congress.

It is generally expected, however, that in the end both the Socialists and the small landholders will capitulate and remain in the coalition. But the possibility of the departure of the Right Wing Small Landholders and their fusion with the Pfeiffer party is not excluded. It also is possible that Lajos Dinnyes of the Small Landholder party will retain the premiership.

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Complaints about election malpractices continue to roll in. This correspondent talked today with an adherent of the Small Landholders faction led by Rev. Istvan Balogh, who had just been released by the political police after five days' "detention."

The work-ers, his overalls were torn almost in two and spattered with stains of his own blood. He related how he had been sent by his party to act as a watcher in a Budapest polling place, how he had remonstrated against plural voting going on there, had been promptly denounced by the Communist chairman of the polling committee and his Socialist colleague as a Fascist, and had been arrested.

He declared that he first was beaten by the precinct police, then turned over to the political police. These, he said, tried to get him to sign a statement that he had been guilty of Fascist and anti-Semitic utterances.

They declared that his leader, Father Balogh, was so fat because he ate the workers' bread. When this worker answered that the Communist leader, Deputy Premier Matyas Rakosi, was pretty fat himself, he was beaten again and kept for two days without food.

Asked how he came to be a Balogh adherent, this man said that he had signed a statement declaring that he would become a member of the Communist party, since otherwise he would not get his job, but that only about 10 per cent of the Hungarian workers were real Communists, whatever they might be ostensibly.

#### New Voting Figures Listed

BUDAPEST, Sept. 5 (Reuters)—The new figures for last Sunday's elections as issued today:

Communists, 1,112,009; Small Landholders, 769,653; Socialists, 744,641; National Peasant party, 415,429; Catholic Women's party, 69,533; Democratic People's party, 821,423; Hungarian Independent party, 670,253; Radical party, 85,458; Independent Democratic party, 263,228, and Democratic Citizens' party, 50,294.

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*will be open  
every Saturday  
starting today*

Store Hours 9:30 to 5:30

derful collection . . . exciting fall-into-winter silhouettes. Black, brown, wine or green. Including 20% Federal tax, **13.00** handbags, main floor

#### SHEER DRESS WOOLENS

by-the-yard from a complete range of textures in new fall colors . . . from fine mills in America and Europe. You'll want many, many yards for your fall wardrobe. yard, **3.95 to 8.95**

Altman fashions-by-the-yard, fifth floor

#### HARRIS TWEED COATS

handsome textured, double-breasted coat with half-belt. In blue and wine herringbone, tan and blue herringbone, blue or green heather. Sizes 10 to 18. **49.95**

misses' coats, third floor

#### SHOES FOR WOMEN

handsome polished tan calfskin walking shoes by Selby, some with built-up leather heels. Wonderful with tweed country clothes . . . for shopping in town.

pair, **15.95**

shoe salon, second floor

#### WHITE BATES BEDSPREADS

in the Hobnail pattern. White puffy balls on heavy white muslin. Single and double sizes. **8.95**

bedspreads, fourth floor

#### EARTHENWARE DINNER SETS

hand-decorated, colorful dinner sets in your choice of four patterns. You'll like especially our 24-piece set of "Poinsettia," **9.95**

china, fourth floor

#### FURNITURE CLEARANCE

We've reduced a great group of Altman furniture . . . tables, chairs, sofas, beds, dining-room suites . . . every piece at great savings. Now is the time to buy what you want for your home. seventh floor

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main floor



## Registry

No. 13626/48/31

J. E. C.

*Draft.*

To

## Commonwealth Relations

Private Secretary first

JB. Sept. 25

E8626

2980

[illegible]

I am directed by Mr. Secretary  
Bevin to enclose, for the information  
of the Secretary of State for Commonwealth  
Relations, a copy of a letter from  
the Deputy Provincial Treasurer  
and Controller of Finances of Ontario.  
This letter refers to an advertisement  
published in the U.S. press,  
which <sup>attached</sup> ~~send~~ <sup>H.M.G.'s decision</sup>  
~~to return~~ <sup>(The British Zone of)</sup> to Germany the Jewish  
illegal immigrants who, having been  
returned to their place of embarkation  
in the south of France, refused to  
land there.

2. ~~Similar letters have been~~  
~~received from various quarters and~~  
a. copy of <sup>the former</sup> letter  
sent from this Dept. in reply  
to other correspondents is enclosed.  
I am ~~to suggest~~ that Lord Address may wish ~~that~~  
~~to suggest~~ that a reply  
might on these lines might be  
sent

[illegible]

### Reference:

FO 371/61827

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to be sent to Mr. Walters by your Dept. The advertisement referred to by Mr. Walters also contained alleged that the methods employed in disembarking these Jews were brutal. This point is not covered by the reply enclosed herein. As such allegations have been given great prominence in the U.S. Press it may be as well to supply Mr. Walters with a few facts about this operation, as follows.

3. (a) The majority of the passengers on the first ship (the "OCEAN VIGOUR") disembarked peacefully, but a few who resisted had to be carried off. Of the 1412 passengers ~~on~~ board this ship, one sustained a slight head wound:

(b) all the passengers from the second ship disembarked peacefully and no force was employed.

(c) The passengers on the third ship (the "RUNNYMEDE PARK") resisted violently, and it was necessary to employ lures and, on some occasions, truncheons. Of the 1485 persons on board, 15 men / and

A time-bomb was later discovered on board this ship.

—, taking the initiative in attacking the soldiers who were waiting for them to land.

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

A vertical ruler with markings from 1 to 6. The ruler is divided into two sections: the top section is labeled '1' and the bottom section is labeled '2'. The markings are numbered 1 through 6 from top to bottom.

## References:

FO 371 61827

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry  
No.

Draft.

and 7 women were injured,  
the worst cases being Jan 81  
injured head and a broken  
wrist.

To sum up, 4294 persons  
were disembarked, many of them  
forcibly, yet only 23 were  
injured and none of these  
seriously, in spite of the violent  
resistance offered by them.

I am etc.

Squad B. B. B. Butrows

RP  
26/9

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	1	1	1	1

Reference:

FO 371/61827

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OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1

30th September, 194

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to enclose, for the information of the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations, a copy of a letter from the Deputy Provincial Treasurer and Controller of Finances, of Ontario. This letter refers to an advertisement published in the United States press, which attacked His Majesty's Government's decision to send to the British Zone of Germany the Jewish illegal immigrants who, having been returned to their place of embarkation in the South of France, refused to land there.

2. A copy of the form of letter sent from this Department in reply to other correspondents is enclosed. I am to suggest that Lord Addison may wish a reply on these lines to be sent to Mr. Walters by your Department. The advertisement referred to by Mr. Walters also alleged that the methods employed in disembarking these Jews were brutal. This point is not covered by the reply enclosed herein. As such allegations have been given great prominence in the United States Press it may be as well to supply Mr. Walters with a few facts about this operation as follows:

3. (a) The majority of the passengers on the first ship (the "Ocean Vigour") disembarked peacefully, but a few who resisted had to be carried off. Of the 1412 passengers on board this ship, one sustained a slight head wound.

(b) All the passengers from the second ship (Empire Rival) disembarked peaceably and no force was employed. A time-bomb was later discovered on board this ship.

(c) The passengers on the third ship (the "Runnymede Park") resisted violently, taking the initiative in attacking the soldiers who were waiting for them to land. It was necessary to employ hoses and, on some occasions, truncheons. Of the 1485 persons on board, 15 men and 7 women were injured, the worst cases being an injured head and a broken wrist.

To sum up, 4294 persons were disembarked, many of them forcibly, yet only 23 were injured and none of these seriously, in spite of the violent resistance offered by them.

I am,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant.

(Sgd) BAB Burrows

The Under Secretary of State,  
Commonwealth Relations Office.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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2

84

proved himself to be a really  
great minister.

In view of Great Britain's  
decision regarding Palestine  
which has appeared in all the  
papers, and I must say I  
approve, compels me to close  
the correspondence without  
answering the lie in  
your communication.

Yours respectfully

B. Lind

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1	1			2	

Reference:

FO

371

61827

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85 enthr

**President:**  
**J. T. O'FARRELL**  
**16. Mount Pleasant Road, N.W.10**

**Parliamentary Representative:**  
**MAURICE ORBACH, M.P.**  
**76, Eton Hall, N.W.3**

**Treasurer :**  
**R. S. HARRIS**  
**148, Hanover Road, N.W.10**

**Secretary :**  
**C. J. BLOOMFIELD**  
**131, Harvist Road, N.W.6**

15th October 1947

**21 OCT 1947**

Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, M.P.,  
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,  
House of Commons,  
London. S.W.1.

**ACKNOWLEDGED**

2 Eastern Dept  
P.O. No.  
2910

Sir.

I have been instructed to inform you that the following resolution was passed at a recent meeting of the General Management Committee of this Party.

"This meeting of the East Willesden Divisional Labour Party condemns the inhuman and sadistic action of the Foreign Office in sending the 4,500 "Exodus" jews back to Germany, the country which has been the graveyard of six million of their people.

It condemns the fact that the decision was taken during the Parliamentary recess without the sanction of the House of Commons.

It calls upon the Government to repudiate this act, which has laid the Government open to the execration of the civilised world, and to dismiss the officials responsible for the action."

Yours faithfully,

C. R. Blount, Jr.

Secretary.

1	2	3	4	5	6
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**Reference:**

FO 371 61827

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13555) Wt. 43698-114 200mm 2/47 G.S.St. Gp. 620

Registry  
No. E 8626/48/31

<del>Top Secret.</del>
<del>Secret.</del>
<del>Confidential.</del>
<del>Restricted.</del>
Open.

J.E.C.

*Draft.*  
Mr. C.J. Bloom-  
field,  
Secretary of the  
East Willesden  
Divisional Labour  
Party.

*from S.O.S.*

RECEIVED IN DIVISION.	
6 NOV 1947	
SENT TO	6/11
DESPATCHED	10/11

*CMCA*  
*a/ti*  
Private Secre-  
tary first.

*JB mv.3*

*RP*  
*V3/4*

OUT FILE

10  
November, 1947.

Dear Mr. Bloomfield,  
Sir,

Your letter of the 15th October, about the decision of H.M.G. to send to the British Zone of Germany the Jewish illegal immigrants <sup>to Palestine</sup> who, having been returned to their place of embarkation in the South of France, refused to land there, raises two distinct points *requiring a reply.*

2. The first point concerns the *grounds for* ~~correctness~~ of H.M.G.'s decision. Your ~~Division of the Labour Party are, of course,~~ *entitled to their own opinion, but I* ~~hope~~ *enclose* ~~that the enclosed factual account of the~~ *a* ~~events which led up to this decision, will~~ *leading* ~~assist them to see it in its true perspective.~~ *puts the matter* ~~which~~

3. The second point concerns your suggestion that H.M.G. should "repudiate ~~this decision~~ *act* and dismiss the officials responsible for it. ~~This suggestion~~ *in this* ~~reveals a complete misunderstanding of the~~

constitutional/  
Connexion

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

carry out my instructions. <sup>decisions</sup>  
 policy rests with <sup>the Minister concerned and in the last resort with</sup> the Cabinet ~~and~~  
~~not with the permanent officials~~  
 concerned.

(Sgd.) Ernest Bevin..

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

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					6

Reference:

**FO** 371 / 1827

87

(S 8626/28/51)

Your letter of the 15th October, about the decision of His Majesty's Government to send to the British Zone of Germany the Jewish illegal immigrants to Palestine who, having been returned to their place of embarkation in the South of France, refused to land there, raises two distinct points requiring a reply.

The second point concerns your suggestion that His Majesty's Government should "repudiate this act and dismiss the officials responsible" for it. In this connexion I must point out that the responsibility for decisions of policy rests with the Ministers concerned and in the last resort with the Cabinet.

(Sgd.) Ernest Bevin

C.J. Bloomfield, Esq.,

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	2	2	2

## References:

FO 371 61827

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Enclosure

88

FOREIGN OFFICE. S.W.1

(F 7770/48/31)

~~At the risk of repeating much that was included in the two official communiques issued in London on the 21st and 23rd August on this subject, I should like to explain briefly the facts of the present case.~~ On the 18th July 4,554 Jews were intercepted on board the s.s. PRESIDENT WARFIELD in an attempt to enter Palestine illegally. They had left France with forged Colombian visas of destination, in contravention of the International Conventions for the Safety of Life at Sea and Load Lines. This ship of under 2,000 tons was far too small to carry anything like 4,500 people in safety, let alone in proper conditions of sanitation. The French authorities had instructed the ship not to leave, but she cut her hawsers.

The case of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD represented a particularly flagrant example of the activities of those responsible for organising the Jewish illegal immigration traffic. As you will be aware, His Majesty's Government and the Government of Palestine have for some time been gravely embarrassed in their exercise of the Palestine Mandate and in the maintenance of peace and internal security in Palestine by this Jewish illegal immigrant traffic. They are bound to enforce the present immigration quota of 1,500 a month for Jews and they would have no justification, in the present interim period before the United Nations make a recommendation regarding the future of Palestine, for altering this quota. Immigration policy is of cardinal importance to the Palestine problem and all concerned should await the decision of the United Nations in this regard. Nevertheless, the organisers of the illegal immigrant traffic are at present trying to exceed the quota with the object of upsetting the balance of population in the country, and are thereby aggravating an already tense and delicate situation which has led to bloodshed between Arabs and Jews.

In view of the exceptional size of the PRESIDENT WARFIELD contingent and of the illicit manner in which they left France, His Majesty's Government had no alternative but to arrange for the return of the illegal immigrants to their country of embarkation, France. It had become evident that the policy of sending illegal immigrants to camps in Cyprus, where they qualify for inclusion in the legal immigration quota to Palestine, had only served to encourage the stream of illegal immigrants which has for months been flowing from Eastern Europe via countries with a Mediterranean seaboard. It is noteworthy that a large part of this stream consists, not of refugees, but of Jews who have been encouraged by the organisers of the traffic to leave their homes in Eastern Europe. The organisers select the immigrants with little regard to humanitarian considerations. The older people, perhaps with relatives in Palestine who would qualify on those grounds are regularly passed over in favour of young men and women and expectant mothers (the latter most unsuited to face the appalling conditions of overcrowding in which they are sent to Palestine). Parents are encouraged to send their children

on/...

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

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on the understanding that they are to be legal immigrants. ~~A case has just arisen where~~ a number of Hungarian parents have asked to have back their children from amongst the PRESIDENT WARFIELD party when it arrived in the British Zone; they were misled by the organisers of the traffic to think that their children were to be admitted on the legal quota.

To revert to the events following the return of the 4,500 illegal immigrants to France. The British transports were left at Port de Bouc for three weeks in the hope that their passengers would accept the French offer of hospitality and disembark in France. When it became clear that the illegal immigrants would not agree to land and that the French Government would not constrain them to do so, it was necessary to find a destination for them under British jurisdiction. In the light of the general situation in regard to the illegal immigrant traffic which I have briefly explained above, His Majesty's Government were quite clear that it would be undesirable to send the illegal immigrants back to Cyprus. They considered a number of destinations in British Colonial territory but in no case was it possible to arrange adequate accommodation at short notice for such a large number of people. It was therefore reluctantly decided to send the illegal immigrants temporarily to the British Zone on Germany, the only place where accommodation could be provided at short notice, and to continue to press the French Government to receive them back through the British Zone.

*are being*  
There has been much criticism of the decision to send these Jews to Germany. For the reasons I have given above, no alternative destination was available. It should be remembered, moreover, that this territory is administered by His Majesty's Government and that the illegal immigrants ~~will be~~ looked after by the British military administration and not by Germans. Moreover, as you will clearly see, there was absolutely no need for them to go to Germany at all. They ~~have~~ spent three weeks waiting off a French port with every facility and encouragement to go ashore, both from the French and British side. They, and those who inspire them, ~~have~~ chose instead to make a political point of refusing to land, thereby causing His Majesty's Government to send them to a destination which is unwelcome to everyone concerned. It ~~was to~~, moreover, the hope of His Majesty's Government that after their arrival in Hamburg it ~~will be~~ possible for the illegal immigrants to pass through Germany into France.

*would have been*  
The French Govt., who were approached on this subject, agreed to receive and to accommodate all who wished to go to France. This offer was announced to the Jews but, under pressure from their leaders, the great majority refused.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371/61827**

**President:**  
**J. T. O'FARRELL**  
**16. Mount Pleasant Road, N.W.10**

**Parliamentary Representative:**  
**MAURICE ORBACH, M.P.**  
**76, Eton Hall, N.W.3**

**Treasurer :**  
**R. S. HARRIS**  
**148, Hanover Road, N.W.10**

**Secretary :**  
**C. J. BLOOMFIELD**  
**131, Harvist Road, N.W.6**

30th November 1947

The Rt. Hon. E. Bevin, M.P.,  
Foreign Secretary,  
House of Commons,  
London. S.W.1.

# INDEXED

8626 48 3

10 DEC 1947

1. Ask ✓ 6.12.47  
2. ~~Bartram~~ Dept.  
P.H.  
4/12.

Dear Comrade.

Reference your letter E 8626/48/31 dated 10th November 1947.

I am instructed to inform you that the General Committee of this Party has considered your letter relating to the question of illegal Jewish immigration into Palestine, and whilst appreciating that His Majesty's Government realise that the decision was unwelcome to all concerned, wishes nevertheless, to re-iterate its condemnation of the action in sending these illegal immigrants to Germany.

Yours fraternally,

*L. W. Blount*  
Secretary.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61827

<p>460 1947</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E8629/G 91</p> <p>20 SEP 1947</p>
<p>E8629/48/31/G</p> <p>Bucharest</p> <p>945</p> <p>Dated 14 Sep</p> <p>Received 18 Sep</p>	<p>S.S. Victor &amp; Northlands</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E8511</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E8418/48/G</p> <p>EY939/48/G.</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Reply sent to Bucharest giving information contained in telegram from Naval Attaché at Angola in E8629/84/31</p> <p>18/9</p> <p>JD Sept. 18</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p> <p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8) N.P.</p> <p>Del) Bucharest</p> <p>no 955.</p> <p>Sept. 17.</p> <p>Rpt'd.</p> <p>Angora no 783.</p> <p>Moscow no 3022.</p> <p>Sofia no 1266.</p> <p>8) I.I.P.</p>		
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>25/9</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>W.H.</p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

1 2 3 4 5 6

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E8629. 92

**Cypher OTF**

**DEPARTMENTAL No. 1**

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Holman  
No. 975

D. 10.45 a.m. 17th September 1947.

17th September 1947. R. 12.55 p.m. 17th September 1947.

Repeated to Ankara  
Sofia  
Jerusalem  
Moscow

**IMPORTANT**  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

TTTTT

Your telegrams Nos. 938 and 933.

S.S. Vieter is discharging grain at Constantza and is said to be leaving for Pati. There appears to be nothing suspicious about this vessel.

2. I should be grateful to know whether S.S. Northlands has entered the Black Sea and if so when.

Foreign Office please repeat to Angera and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 21 and 42 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora and copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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Reference: **FO 371/61827**

38 SEP 1947

Registry  
No. ~~E 8629/48/C~~

**Secret.**

**Secret.**

**Confidential.**

~~Restricted.~~

**Open.**

BUCHAREST

No. 955

(Date) Sept 17<sup>th</sup>

ANCONA No 783  
MOSCOW No 3022  
SOFIA No 1266.

ANGORA No 783  
MOSCOW No 3022  
SOFIA No 1266

MOSCOW ✓ No 3022  
SOFIA ✓ No 1266.

~~Pro-Clair.~~

Code.

*Cypher.*

Departmental No. 1

*Copies to :-*

✓ I. I. P.

93

1947

Despatched 11:05 A.M.

Confidential

17<sup>th</sup> September: Jewish illegal immigration] Your telegram no. 975 [of

We have heard nothing  
of "NORTH LANDS" since she  
entered BOSPHORUS at 0700 hours  
13th September.

17/9

Copy sent to M. G. Secretanath

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3149 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

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## References

FO 371 61827

94

E.

Confidential

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO BUCHAREST

No. 955.

September 17th, 1947.

D. 11.05 a.m. September 18th, 1947.

Repeated to Angora No. 785  
Moscow No. 3022  
Sofia No. 1266

JJJ

CONFIDENTIAL

Your telegram No. 975 [of 17th September: Jewish illegal immigration].

We have heard nothing of "Northlands" since she entered Bosphorus at 0700 hours 13th September.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61827

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<p>1947</p> <p>461</p>	<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E8633/G</p> <p>18 SEP 1947 95</p>
<p>E8633 148/31/G</p> <p>Bucharest</p> <p>943</p> <p>Dated 17 Sept</p> <p>Received 18 Sept.</p>	<p>Seeqas immigration from</p> <p><u>Roumania</u></p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E8629</p> <p>References.</p> <p>E8465/48/C</p> <p>EY939/48/C.</p>	<p>(Minutes.)</p> <p>Please see also E 8465 and E 7939</p> <p><i>John</i> C.S. CABLE 18/9</p> <p><i>Left in 2 Defr.</i></p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>	<p>See separate minute</p>	
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>8)11P</p>	<p>J.B. Sept. 19</p>	
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>25/9</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>494</p>	
<p>Next Paper.</p>		

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Reference:

FO 371/61827



96

I have discussed the matter with the Admiralty, who pointed out the disadvantages, i.e. the delay in getting through the Straits, the limited time which our ship can spend in the Black Sea and the possibility that the illegal immigrant ships might play a waiting game. / The Admiralty would be willing to consider sending a ship if we put in a strong recommendation to this effect, but in all the circumstances I would recommend that we are not justified in doing so. I think that just now, when the matter is before the United Nations and we are likely to be making a statement of policy, we should do best to limit ourselves to action short of "shadowing" and, if the illegal immigrant ships succeed in getting through, send the people to Cyprus in the normal way.

I/

**NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.**

(NB we can only stay 3 weeks in the Black Sea, I gather)

FO 371/61827

I am sending a copy of this minute to  
Mr. Higham at the Colonial Office and to  
Mr. Dodds at the Admiralty, for concurrence.

Soured <sup>✓</sup> Sept. W. S. Beins  
18th September, 1947.

Discussed with Mr. ~~Edith~~ Barrows  
who agrees that we should not press  
for the dispatch of a warship through  
the Straits.

*Rd*  
*V 20/9*

Co. agree too

*AB* Sept. 22

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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18 SEP 1947

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

97

Mr. Holman  
No. 973.

D. 11.26 a.m. September 17th, 1947.  
R. 2.20 p.m. September 17th, 1947.

**September 17th, 1947.**

Repeated to Sofia  
Angora  
Jerusalem  
Moscow

JJJ

**RESTRICTED**

**Your telegram No. 933 and my telegram No. 959.**

The Roumanian newspaper Timpul of to-day reports that 6,000 (repeat 6,000) "legal" Jewish emigrants bound for Palestine are to be embarked on two Panamanian ships due to arrive at Constantza.

2. Considerable numbers of young Jews of both sexes are now moving towards the Roumanian Black Sea coast.

5. I have drawn the attention of the Roumanian Government again to the fact that these emigrants intend to attempt to enter Palestine illegally and of the grave view His Majesty's Government will take should these transports be allowed to leave a Roumanian port.

Foreign Office please repeat to Ankara and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 20 and 41 respectively.

[Repeated to Angora.]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office  
for repetition to Jerusalem.]

[Copies sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

1035-1047

18 SEP 1947

[illegible]

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

98

Group ..... *FO* .....

Class ..... *371* .....

Piece ..... *61827* .....

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Department of origin under Section 3 (4)

of the Public Records Act, 1958

*E8639/48/31*

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

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# 1947

# E

E 8648

SFD

# PALESTINE

**Registry  
Number**

**FROM**

No.

***Dated***

*Received*

### *in Registry*

## Last Paper

8646

## References

*(Print)*

(How disposed of)

(Action completed)

(Index)

## Next Paper

8669

Dominican Co-operation re Illegal Immigration  
Transmit particulars of two incidents showing  
Dominican Co-operation re prevention of  
illegal Entry activities.

**(Minutes.)**

Before to: Mr. Fitzgerald C.O.  
P.O. 1 N.T.S.

Mr. ~~finger~~ M. I. S.

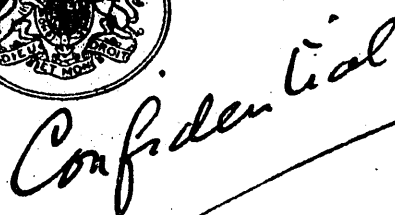
N.A. Def 18. 24/9.

*[Signature]* 19/9

“

EQ 371 61827

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E 8648

BRITISH LEGATION,  
CIUDAD TRUJILLO,  
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

19 SEP 1964

8th September, 1947.

Dear South American Department,

In addition to my various reports regarding the close cooperation of the Dominican Government in our Jewish terrorist difficulties, the following two incidents may interest you.

In conversation the other day, Señor García Godoy, the acting Foreign Secretary, told me that when he was Dominican Ambassador in Washington he was approached personally by a Mr. Bernstein, an official of the Jewish Organisation, who asked him to arrange for 10,000 Dominican visas to be given to Jewish refugees. Godoy asked whether entry permits into the Dominican Republic had been obtained, to which Bernstein replied that that was not necessary as the Jews were actually going to Palestine. Godoy said that that meant that he should perpetrate an open fraud, and that he considered it an insult, but Bernstein insisted that Godoy would not commit a fraud. "You just take my word that they are coming to the Dominican Republic", he said; "Whether my word is true or not is my responsibility."

The other incident occurred when I approached the President about the terrorists in Djibouti. He at once gave orders, as reported, that all shadow of Dominican cooperation with the terrorists should be removed, but he said: "Why don't you let me give all the terrorists visas and send them here. I promise you I would take care of them". If Mr. Zabrovski wishes to visit the "personal friend of his personal friend", just send him over here.

Yours ever,

ours ever,

*Russell Thorne*

South American Department,  
Foreign Office, S.W.1.

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Reference:

**FQ** 371 / 1827

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E  
102

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

Mr. Broad  
No. 1296

D. 8.15 a.m. 18th September 1947  
R. 11.40 a.m. 18th September 1947

Repeated to Berlin (Please pass as my telegram No. 102)

My telegram No. 106 saving (Jews at Hamburg).

I have obtained a list of names of 27 Jewish children sent to Germany from Poland whose families have so far in vain requested their repatriation. I am forwarding a copy of this list by next bag in case you may consider it desirable to cause enquiries to be made as to whether any of these children are included among Jews from the President Warfield.

[Repeated to Berlin]

## Reference

FO 371/61827

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CYPHER  
(Paraphrasing  
necessary)

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

E8669 / 48 / 31

103

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE(GERMAN SECTION) TO LUBBECKE.

No. 5834 Basic.

CONFIDENTIAL.

23rd September 1947.

D. 7.10 pm 23rd September 1947.

Following is repeat of WARSAW to Foreign Office telegram No. 1296 dated 18th September which was passed to BERLIN as Foreign Office telegram No. 102.

Begins.

My telegram No. 106 saving (Jews at HAMBURG).

I have obtained a list of names of 27 Jewish children sent to Germany from Poland whose families have so far in vain requested their repatriation. I am forwarding a copy of this list by next bag in case you may consider it desirable to cause enquiries to be made as to whether any of these children are included among JEWS from the President Warfield.

Ends.

Originator: Mr. Cable.

Distribution: German Refugee Dept (6 copies).

G/317.

68.

JE/GSG

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61827

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GER REFUGEE DEPT (6 copies)

105

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM WARSAW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Broad  
No. 1296

D. 8.13 a.m. 18th September 1947  
R. 11.40 a.m. 18th September 1947

18th September 1947

Repeated to Berlin (Please pass as my telegram No. 102)

C C C C C C

(My telegram No. 106 saving (Jews at Hamburg)).

I have obtained a list of names of 27 Jewish children sent to Germany from Poland whose families have so far in vain requested their repatriation. I am forwarding a copy of this list by next bag in case you may consider it desirable to cause enquiries to be made as to whether any of these children are included among Jews from the President Warfield. **ENDS.**

[Repeated to Berlin]

9/317  
~~222~~  
(68)

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Reference:

**FO** 371 / 61827

241

106

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E 8728

1947

PALESTINE

SEP 1

Registry  
Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received  
in Registry

E 8728/48/31

Embassy

Athens

344  
14 Sept  
22

Illegal Immigration, Greek Vessels.  
 Refers to letter E 6158/48/31 transmits copy  
 of note to Rego's (Hellenic) Ministry Foreign Affairs  
 of Sept 14, concerning nationalities of crews  
 aboard Greek vessels.

Last Paper

8669

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

8/ Negham. CO  
 Robertson. 1011  
 Evered. Baboff  
 ✓ Sent 26

(Action  
completed)

(Index)

J. C. M. 26/9

29/9/48

Next Paper

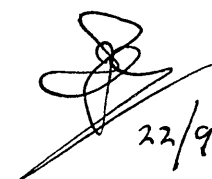
8731.

(Minutes.)

Copies to:

C.O.  
H. 2.5

Cabinet Office

usual  
names
  
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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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No. 344.

(46/346/47)

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Athens  
presents his compliments to H.M.P.S.S.F.A.  
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned  
documents.

British Embassy.....

Athens.....

E 8728

14th Sept. 1947..

Reference to previous correspondence:

F.O. letter ref.No. E.6158/48/31 of 17/7/47.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copy of Note to the Royal Hellenic Ministry for Foreign Affairs dated 14th Sept. 1947.	Greek vessels engaged in Jewish illegal immigration traffic.

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Reference: FO 371/61827

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No. 411.  
46/346/47.

His Britannic Majesty's Embassy present their compliments to the Royal Hellenic Ministry for Foreign Affairs and have the honour to draw the attention of the Ministry to the following matter.

His Majesty's Embassy understand that under the provisions of Law No. 5231 of the 30th July 1931 and the relevant decrees, any vessel sailing under the Greek flag is required to carry a crew consisting, where possible, entirely of Greek subjects and only to employ foreigners if Greek subjects are not available.

It seems likely that it may often be the case that any Greek vessels engaged in the traffic in illegal immigrants to Palestine will not comply with this regulation. Its strict enforcement by Greek consuls and other Greek authorities against ships suspected of complicity in the Jewish illegal immigration traffic would therefore provide a valuable means of detaining such ships. His Majesty's Embassy therefore have the honour to suggest that the Royal Government, whose co-operation in hampering the activities of the organisers of the Jewish traffic has been so valuable, should issue instructions to consuls and other Greek authorities that the regulations referred to above should be strictly enforced in the case of any suspect vessel.

In this latter connection His Majesty's Embassy hope to be in a position shortly to furnish the black list of ships and ship-owners to which reference was made in the second paragraph of the Royal Ministry's Note No. 31454 of the 2nd July.

His Majesty's Embassy avail themselves of this opportunity to renew to the Royal Hellenic Ministry for Foreign Affairs the assurance of their highest consideration.

14th September, 1947.

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1947

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109

E 8731

1947

PALESTINE

SEP

Registry  
Number

E8731/48/31

FROM

Mr. Charteris

No.

War Office

Dated

RM/2211 (1404)

Received  
in Registry

18 Sept

22 ~

Last Paper

8728

References

(Print)

(How disposed of)

(Action  
completed)

7/2/50/10

(Index)

24/7/48

Next Paper

8743

Disembarkation of Jews at Hamburg.

Enclosed copy of report by O.B. Military  
Excerpt of President Warfield's  
on disembarkation operation at Hamburg.

(Minute...)

This is an admirable and most interesting  
report. I wish we could have it published  
in the U.S.A.

File  
(J.E.CABLE)

22/9

German (Refugee) Dept. 26/9/47.  
Hence Dept. 22/9/47.  
Information Policy Dept.

13 Sept. 24

1947 L.O. 1.0.

The question of our circulating this  
paper in the Scandinavian countries was  
put up to the War Office. Capt. Crockett there  
(en. 602) telephoned to say that this was  
acceptable to them, in an amended version,  
provided that the first person was not  
used in the report as published.

R.S. Smith 23/9

R.S. Smith

Many thanks for the sight of this.

E.P. Dept. 28/10

S.H.C. Woodhatch  
W.E.I.D.

29/10

26/10

33538

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Reference:

FO 371/61827

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From : Lt. Col. The Hon. M.M.C. Charteris, OBE.



THE WAR OFFICE,

WHITEHALL, S.W.1.

E 8731

SEP/81 September, 1947.

BM/2211.(MO 4).

*John John*

I attach, for your retention, a copy of the Report by the Officer Commanding the military escorts of the EXODUS '47 Jews, on the disembarkation operation at Hamburg.

I have also sent a copy to Higham, Colonial Office.

*John Lamb*  
*Mach Charteris*

J.G.S. Beith, Esq.,  
Foreign Office.

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Reference:

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## 11

1. This report deals with each ship separately because each presented a different problem. The main difference is the attitude of the leaders which varied from complete co-operation to complete opposition. It should also be borne in mind that the guiding factor in most of the actions of the Jews is to gain the sympathy of the world press.

2. I came ahead in a fast launch when the Fleet docked at ELBE I Light on the morning of 6th September and attended a conference at which every-one connected with the operation was present.

The first was to prevent the press and C.C.G. Officials going on to the ships at CUXHAVEN and the other was to prevent the press being on the quay-side until after the operation of disembarkation had started. The reason for both is exactly the same. If one is an actor there is no point in putting on your show if there is no audience and the same applies to the immigrants. After disembarkation, they are free to spread all the atrocity stories they like, whatever the disembarkation has been like but if the press is there they have got to put on a show for them to see. [My] recommendations were therefore based on preventing bloodshed both among the Jews and ~~(my own)~~ long-suffering soldiers. This opinion may or may not have been right but it is worthy of note that the trouble on Ocean Vigour did not start till the press appeared. The preliminaries therefore included a completely deserted quay which puzzled the Jews a lot and disembarkation initially by my own soldiers whom they know well and who have ceased to be impressed by their demonstrations.

3. The Ocean Vigour docked 24 hours late due to fog and clearance started on the morning of 8th September. The Jews were warned to be ready the previous night but they did not hurry over their preparations. I think mainly the object of putting up a show of non-cooperation rather than resistance. The hospital patients were disembarked first without trouble and after that there was a definite pause, so [Major Ellis] O.C. Escort, suggested telling them over the loudspeaker to get a move on - tactfully of course - and I quite agreed with his views.

o.c.  
Escort

After this a fairly slow trickle started which continued until 0645 hours by which time about a third of them were disembarked. Trouble then broke out in No. 2 hold where a party of youthful agitators refused to move and prevented everyone else. A few were pushed upstairs but it became obvious that some force was going to be necessary, so [Major Ellis] asked me for instructions. On his suggestion, he had a try at the peaceful disembarkation of No. 1, leaving the trouble makers in No. 2 till the end, but there was no response so I asked for permission to use force which was

/granted.....

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EMPIRE RIVAL

# RUNNYMEDE PARK

When the ship docked all the staircases into the holds on the starboard side had been demolished and O.C. Escorts strongly suspected that those on the port side were already weakened for quick demolition. The Jews were singing and there was no sign of any movement to disembark.

The problem was not an easy one and I had to decide between recommending the alternatives of smoking them out with tear smoke or going in and pulling them out. I choose the latter because I considered that there was a very reasonable hope that when we appeared in the holds looking business-like, and we had removed ~~the first~~ few, the rest might follow peacefully and there might have been very little damage done. If tear smoke is used there is always the risk of a panic rush for the stairs in which several people, mainly women and children of course, will get severely injured. [The Jew is liable to panic and] 800-900 Jews fighting to get up a single stairway to escape tear smoke could have produced a deplorable business.

/done the...

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done the job with scaling ladders and ropes would have been very unpleasant indeed and very difficult. Hoses were rigged on the starboard side entrances to the holds so that, if any attempt was made to demolish the staircases, we could knock the Jews away from the ladders. An officer was present to control the hoses and they were used later in the battle with great value.

No. 1 hold was to be occupied by my own Airborne troops and No. 2 by a mixed company of C.M.P. and Foresters, 100 strong, with a third company of Foresters acting as a link from the holds to the gangway to pass on any-one who got rough. The two commanders occupying the holds were told to seize the bottom of the ladder and then wait to see if they were assaulted. If nothing happened they were to start peacefully easing out any-one who wanted to go and try to leave any tough case to the end which is the method we have previously adopted with success in clearing ships at HAIFA.]

No 2. hold was the worst proposition because they had the leaders there, which we were not certain about at the time, and also because they were about 900 there instead of 500 as numbers 2 and 3 holds are interconnecting. The only escape from No. 3 had been demolished by the Jews and the only exit was through No. 2. I think this had probably been done to prevent the weaker brethren escaping at the back while the battle raged in front.

In No. 1 hold there was no immediate reaction when the troops appeared but all the Jews withdrew in a ring round the hold to see what was going to happen. There were no signs of peaceful disembarkation however, so the first Jews were picked up and removed fighting madly all the way. This started the trouble but on the whole in this hold most of the fighting started with Jews being removed and not with their attacking soldiers, though quite a lot of miscellaneous missiles were thrown. After the first batch had been removed a large number came off, peacefully helped by the soldiers but the last hundred or so put up a spirited resistance and nearly all had to be carried out. [Sticks had to be used in several cases as the resistance of even the children was fanatical and one soldier broke a wrist being knocked off from half-way up the stairs.

Things would probably have been worse if the Jews had not known the soldiers and also if the soldiers had not had some idea of what to expect. It is a very frightening thing to go into a hold full of yelling maniacs when outnumbered 6 or 8 to 1.

In No. 2 hold the drill was the same but the response was much brisker. The C.M.P. led the way and a line went straight across cutting the hold in two while they awaited Jewish reactions. After a very short pause, with a lot of yelling and female screams, every available weapon up to biscuit tins and bulks of timber was hurled at the soldiers. They withstood it admirably and very stoically till the Jews assaulted and in the first rush several soldiers were downed with half-a-dozen Jews on top kicking and tearing. Sticks were used then in self-defence and hoses were also successfully brought into play. After this it was a question of grabbing the nearest Jew and pulling him up the steps but about ninety per cent had to be dragged. Hoses were used again towards the end to break up the party of fanatical last ditchers. The battle was rough throughout [and] the first assault was undoubtedly made by the Jews.

In the holds, there was very little unnecessary striking and I was chiefly amazed at the way, during quite a shattering

/battle, ...

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114  
END

battle, the soldiers still continued to push the Jews struggling up the stairs when one crack with a stick would have greatly eased the task. The only complaint that could have been levelled with any justification was that a few Jews were gratuitously pushed along on deck when they would probably have gone quietly.

Any other roughness, which was very slight, was mainly due to a few young soldiers getting excited and ~~no-one~~, who had seen the battle in the holds, could possibly blame them for it. No other troops could have done it as well and humanely as these British ones did.

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Put with E

16th September, 1947.

I understand from Kinna at the Foreign Office that you would like to see a copy of the reply which the Prime Minister sent to the letter which Mr. Sydney Silverman sent to him on September 3rd about the Warfield Jews, and also in identical terms to a number of other Ministers. I enclose a copy of the Prime Minister's reply, which was sent after consultation with the Foreign Office, and also a copy of Mr. Silverman's further <sup>letter</sup> reply dated September 10th. The President may care to know that the Prime Minister decided not to send any further reply to this second letter.

Yours sincerely  
J. A. H.

C.M.P. Brown, Esq.,  
Board of Trade.

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